

THE  
MOST PLEA-  
SANT HISTORY  
OF ORNATVS AND  
ARTESIA.

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Whercin is contayned the vnjust  
Raigne of THEON King of  
PHRYGIA.

Who with his Sonne LENON intending  
ORNATVS his Death, right Heyre to the  
Crown, was afterwards slaine by his owne  
Servants; and ORNATVS, after  
many extreme miseries  
Crowned King.

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LONDON.

Printed by B. ALDOP and T. FAUCET, dwelling in  
Grub-Street neare the Lower-Pumpe.

1634.

THE  
MOSITIVE  
SANT HISTORY  
OF  
GAMALAS AND  
ARTESIA.

WHATSOEVER IS CONTAINED IN THE VINTAGE  
OF THE HOG KID OF  
BOSTON.

WHO WROTE THIS SONG? I DON'T KNOW  
OR WHERE IT IS DRAWN FROM; I DON'T KNOW  
WHO WROTE THIS SONG; I DON'T KNOW WHO OWNED  
PENNANT; I DON'T KNOW WHO OWNED  
CLOWNING KID.



London.  
Lithograph'd. At no. 22, T. Bayly, in Pall Mall, in  
Crown Office Court, by J. Weller.

# THE RIGHT

W. Q. R. S. H. B. F. W. L. B. R. Y. A. N.  
show 1011. **South & West of Carolina, in the**

County of York Escaped, the  
Treasurer of the County of York  
has been compelled to issue  
a Proclamation for the  
Recapture of the County of York  
from the hands of the Rebels.

His vnpolishit History ( Right Worshipfull )  
Wanting the Oument of Eloquence, presen-  
teth it selfe in his naturall and selfe-expressing  
forme, in well applyed wordes, not in tedi-  
ous borrowed phrases, wherein neyther the  
lewd can finde examples to suite theyr dispo-  
sition, the vassallus no tearmes to discontent them, nor the  
well affected any cause of offence. Here you shall see Lust  
Tyrannizing Auarice, guilty of murther, and dignity, seeking  
his content with usurpation, yet all subuerted to vertue.  
Which I am bold to present vnto you ; not for the worth, but  
to expresse my good will, which is not vnmindfull in some  
sort to gratifie the manifold courtesies I haue receiued of  
you. And although it be altogether not worth estimation,  
and to bee accounted no requitall for so many good turnes ;  
yet I desire you to accept the same in stead of a better,  
and the summe of that which my ability at this time can af-  
foord : Which beeing but a Fancie, vouchsafe to esteeme,  
though not agreeing with your Grauitie, yet ( as many  
both Noble and Wise in such like matters haue done ) to  
be read for recreation. As the value of the gift expresteth  
not the affection of the giuer, nor the outward shew the in-  
ward

## The Epistle Dedicatory.

ward meaning: so I trust you will esteem my good will not by the worthinesse hereof, but the quality of my will, which is in tent, which is devoted unto you in my bands. And my good will, and will be ready to shew it selfe to you, when you shall you shall make thereof. And for that I know your w<sup>t</sup> freedom and curtesie to be such, as that you will not misconstrue me, but esteem well hereof, and my affection to you, to bee express in the Dedication, I haue aduentured to Dedicate the same to your protection, though altogether yndeserving the title of your Faethonge, which your further kindnes shall bind mee hereafter to reuiue the same with some worthier work collected by my labours.

Thus beeing loath to bee tedious and troublesome vnto  
you, I commit this silly Presumpcion to your gentle acceptation  
and your selfe to the gracious protection of the Almighty.

# THE EPISTLE TO THE READER.



Entlemen, I haue published this Historie, at the  
intreaty of some of my familiar friends, being at  
the first collected with no intent to haue it  
printed, for as yet hauing taken but one flight,  
I durst not so boldly venture againe, lest my  
unkynshippes might caus my repentance. But  
being supported by the assistance of your gentle  
fauours, I shall grow hardy and hereafter la-  
bour to procure your further delight: the reward I expect, being  
your kind acceptance. But of contrary to my thought, this my  
Summer fruite bee gathered before it be ripe, I promise amends with  
old fruite, that hath beeue a yare in ripening, and in the beginning  
of the next Winter comming forth. In the meane time peruse this  
Historie, which sauoreth more of pleasure then Eloquence, and al-  
though basily compiled, yet let it passe under your fauourable cen-  
sure, and by your courtesies, be shrowded and from the variable dis-  
fisks of Morus vaine imitators.

The learned, wise, and courteous, will according to the quality  
of their dispositions, esteem well of this unworthy worke, valuing  
the sense, not by the worth, but the will of the writer. As for such  
as either rashly condencen without judgement, or launishly dislike  
without advise, I esteem them like the downe of Thistles, incon-  
stantly dispeareste with every blast, accounting theyr discontent my  
content: not caring to please those that are pleased with nothing.  
But did my gaines countermaile my labours, I would then frame my  
fancie

To the Reader.

...fancy to fit theyr humours, but getting nothing, I can loose no lesse,  
and to have a good opinion of me, with a good opinion of all I  
creaue, and to haue hope you shal be well contented with me,  
as at a Banquet shal be the best course, to haue a  
sauourable shal be the best course, to haue a  
sweete, yet all esteemed, so wondrous excellent, among a varietie of  
eloquent histories, let this serue as one dish to furnish me a banquet  
and like soure and sweete intermingled, make a plasante taste, by  
your courteous construing of my good meaning, and your sauoura-  
ble opinion of Organachus, so shall I recouer my debt to you great,  
my labours well bestowed, and my selfe bound to require your kind-  
nesse, You shall shew your affections to learning, when I am honouring  
good endeavours, and givē encouragement to your labours.  
This well conciēed, my reward rich, and well deserved, and ready  
and willing to deserue your courtesie.

But if Ornatus touchreed my blome, as he woulde his banishe-  
ment, then may I wish I had neuer knowne her, and my curse of  
Malæ fortuna, as my reward. With the bird Celin breed in Af-  
rica: who wandering farre from her selfe, by forgetfullnesse cannot  
returne: and so for ever after abandoned company. So I conboldly  
building on your courtesie, may be wooned with repentance: and  
by my ouerfright be brought in dispaire, unless your courtesie  
preuent the same: on which my bootes depende. And I sease.

E. FOORD

THE  
CIVIL

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# THE MOST PLEASANT HI- story, of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

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## CHAP. I.

How *Ornatus* was enamoured of the fayre *Artesia*.



In the rich and renowned Country of Phrygia, in provinces not far distant from their neighbourhood, dwelt two ancient Knights, the one named Allinus, the other Arbastus, men of great possessions, & much honored. Between whom, such extreme contention and hatred remained, by reason of the death of one Renó, brother to Allinus, long since slaine in a Quarrell by certaine Gentlemen belonging to Arbastus, that neyther their alone wisdome, nor the sundry persuasions of friends to either party allied, were of any force to mitigate the same. Both of them, being enriched with innumerable blessings, especially to their faire progeny.

Allinus having a Sonne of goodly stature, and commendable gifts, named Ornatus. And Arbastus a daughter, called Artesia, exceeding comelynesse, exteriorly beautified with abundance of

## The most pleasant History,

gifts of nature, and inwardly adorned with abundance of viuine perfections. Yet by reason of their Parents discord, they remained as farre ignorant in knowledge one of the other, as if they had bene separated by an innumerable distance of strange countries.

Ornatus aboue all things delighted in Hawking, and on a day being weary, he wandzed without company with his Hawke on his fist into a most pleasant Valley, where he shrowded himselfe vnder the shadow of a tust of gracie trees, with purpose to rest himselfe, and euен when his eyes were ready to yeld to slumber, he was reviued from his drowsiness by the noyse of a kennell of hounds that past by him in chace of a stagge, after whom, Arbastus and divers in his company (though to him knoþone) followed, who being passed by, whilst he was in a deepe study, to thinke what they shold be, he espyed a beautifull damzell entring the same valley, who being somewhat weary liking the prospect of that shady tust of trees, alighted there, which Ornatus seeing, withdrew himselfe from her sight, whilst she tyng her fater to a bush, layn her delicate body downe vpon the cooling earth, to rale her selfe, and dry up her sweat, which the sooner to accomplish, she unlaced her garments, and with a decent and comely behaviour, discouered her milke white necke & breast beautified with two round pretious teates, to receiue the breath of the coole wind, which was atteded with a delight to exhale the moþtuous vapours from her pure body. Ornatus seeing all, and to some humerle, noted with a delight each perfect lineament of her proper body, beaute, sweet, sanguour, and other comelinetts, which filled his heart with exceeding pleasure, therewith grabing into an boorell assencion towards her, and a great study minding she shold be, when suddenly his Hawke feeling his herte unmeaneable thinking to pearch her selfe with quiet prid her selfe and with the noyse of her bels made Artesia to start, who as one half agast, with a fearefull behavour rose from the ground, looking round about her from whence that sound came, the espyed Ornatus who unwilling the shold perceiue he had seene her, laynes if he had fecht, Artesia maruellung what he shold be, and accordingly thinking

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA

thinking he had slept, closed her naked brest with great hast, and unwilling her houle, thought to goe away unspedy. Which Ornatus perceiving, and unwilling without speaking to her to loose her sight, seemed to awake, and raising himselfe, speedily beheld her, which infused such a red vermillion blush into her beautifull cheakes, and withall such a bashfull confuson spred it selfe in her conceits, that she stood like one halfe amazed or ashamed.

Which Ornatus perceiving, drew towards her, and greeted her with these spaches. Faire Damzell, be not abashd with my presence, though a stranger, which shall no way (if I can chuse) offend you, but rather command me, and I will be ready to doe you any service. Artesia notwithstanding his spaches, withdrew her selfe aside, leading her houle to a bank, whers with ease she moun-  
ted, and so rode away, not giving him any answer at all.

Ornatus marvelled thereat, yet rightly imputed her vankinde departare to her feare, not discrusse. And seeing himselfe depri-  
ued of her sight, and the night approaching, he departed home to his Fathers house. After supper, betaking himselfe to his cham-  
ber, with intent to rest, he was possessed with such remembrance of the beautifull Damzell he had seene, that his sleepe was trans-  
formed into continuall cogitations of her beauty, forme, and fa-  
vour, and the pleasant sight he had seene in the discovery of some of her hidden beauties, imprinted such a delight in his affectionate conceites, that he could take no sleepe, but he continued all that night in those meditations.

The next day, thinking to shake off all further remembrance of her, he got him into the company of his most chosen friends, wherein before time he took most delight, yet now by reason of his distemperatur, he rather seemed weary thereto. He had not con-  
tinued long with them, but he was saluted by a Gentleman na-  
med Phylastes, with whom he was familiarly acquainted: This Gentleman belonged to an ancient Duke named Turnus, who in honour of his birth day, from which Allinus excused himselfe of purpose, because he thought he should meet Arbastus there, but be-  
cause the Duke shold take no offence at him, he granted that his Sonne Ornatus shold goe to doe him honour.

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which Phylastes acquainted Ornatus withall, who glad thereof, departed thither in company of divers other Gentlemen: the Duke likewise had sent another messenger to request Arbastus company, whs being of a more milde nature then Allinus, willingly went, and with him his Lady, and faire daughter Artesia.

## CHAP. II.

How Ornatus came to the knowledge of Artesia, and intreated Adellena, to make knowne his loue to her, and of the rebuke Artesia gave her.



After the Feast was ended, and the Duke had honoured his guests with all manner of courtesie, he and the principalest, among whom Arbastus was one of the chiefe, according to the custome used in the Countrey, seated themselves to behold certaine Games and exercises to be performed by the young Gentlemen: which was, running, wrestling, and divers other exercises for tryall of the strenght and nimblenesse of the body: amongst the rest, Ornatus (having never before made tryall of himselfe) had such good successe, and behavéd himselfe with such agility and strenght, that he wonne the chiefe honour, and was presented before the Duke, to receive a rich reward.

Which when he had received, casting his eyes vpon the beholders, he espred Artesia, whom he perfectly knew againe, ready to depart with her Parents, who had bidden the Duke farewell. Ornatus comming to Phylastes, asked if he knew that damzell, shewing him Artesia, who told him, what she was. Ornatus was glad of that small knowledge, which could adde little meanes to his hopes, yet somewhat discontented, that she was daughter to Arbastus. And thus the day being ended, every one departed to their abodes.

Ornatus having againe attained his Chamber, spent his time of rest in sundry cogitations of his loue, and how to guide her

knew.

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knowledge of his affection, noting every danger, and pondering how discontentedly his parents would take the same, if it shoulde by any meanes come to theyz knowledge, finding so many lets to hinder him, that he was oftentimes in utter dispayre of attaining to the least hope of good successe. But finding his affection to increase more and more, and burning with a seruent desire, whiche nothing but onely her fauour could extinguish.

After that night was past, earely the next morning, hee waned towards the place where hee had beheld her with such exceeding content, and by the way as he went, hee met with a gentlewoman named Adellena, of meane birth, and small living, yet of good education, who oftentimes resorted to Arbastus house, and was going thither at that instant, into whose company hee intrusted himselfe, for that he saw her alone, and sayd as followeth.

Gentlewoman, I am bold to intreat a word or two with you: Sir, replied she, with a good will. I will satisfie you in what I can: Know you not, quoth he, Arbastus? I doe quoth she, both know him, and am very well acquainted with him, vnto whose house I am now going. So would I, quoth he, if I durst, for I serue Ornatus, sonne to Allinus, whom I doe not doubt, but you know well, of whom I will tell you moare, but that I feare to commit his secrets to them I know not, and thereby unwillingly doe him iniury: but would you vouchsafe, but to heare them, keepe them secret, and withall, adde your helpe for to further him, whiche you may with safety performe, you shoulde doe him an exceeding pleasure, and withall, bee so highly rewarded, and thankesfull gratified, that you shoulde thinke your labour very well imployed: doe a deede of pittie, and binde him in perpetuall bands of kinde loue and friendship?

Sayz, replied Adellena, I know not the Gentleman, yet I haue heard him very much commended, in whom, if I could any way pleasure, I would vs both diligence and secrecie, promising you vpon my faith and credit, if you will make me acquainted with your mind, I will eyther doe my good will to further him, or else conceale what you shall commit to my privity.

## The most plesant History

Then sayd he, my master not long since walking in yonder  
valley beheld Artesia, sayre Artesia, daughter to Arbastus, to  
whose beauty he is exceedingly intiralled, that unlesse some  
meanes of comfort he found to ease his torment, I feare nre it  
will endanger his life: whom you onely may pleasure, by making  
his loue knowne to her, in such sort as shall best agree with your  
wisedome. This is all, and yet so much, that the retreating there-  
of may doe much harme. And to effect such a contract, might pro-  
cure peace, and unitie twixt their parents. Therfore I entreat  
your ayde and furtherance herein: with which god helpe, if I  
returns to him, I know it will bade no little comfort to his  
disquieted heart:

*smith*  
Sir, sayd he, since I perceyue his loue is grounded vpon  
verte, not dnatone thereto by any desire of reward, I undertake  
to be his assistant herein, and will to the uttermost of my best  
endeavours, labour to procure his content. Whiche this day I will  
in some sort put in execution. And if you returne to me to mor-  
row, you shall know her answere. I will sayd he, and so they de-  
parted. Ornatus having left her, entred into many cogitations  
of this rash attempt, accounting himself ouer trevulous to commit  
his secrets to her primitie, of whose fidelity he had never made tri-  
all, sometimes comforting himselfe with hope of good event, and  
agayne dispayring of comfort, so that he supposed, Artesia would  
rather esteeme him as an enemy then a friend; by reason of their  
parents hatred, and therfore would the more hardly be dnatone  
to give any credit to his fute. And revolving a chaos of these and  
such like confusid cogitations, he attained his fathers house, think-  
ing the time tedious vntill his appoynted meeting with Adel-  
ena, which he overpass with great care. Adelena after her de-  
parture from him, sone attayned to Arbastus house, vsing her  
selfe as shes had soverly done, yet withall carefull how to execute  
the charge she had in hand, whiche she could by no occasion vster  
till after dinner, when she found Artesia all alone in the garden,  
instituated herselfe into her company, whiche Artesia kindly accep-  
ted, entring into variety of discourses, and continuing some time  
in gaigning certaine hearbs ther proper names: amongst the rest,  
Artesia

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Artesia espyed an hearbe with party coloured leaues, demanding of Adellena if she knew the name thereof, which she told her she did not. I haue oftentimes quoth Artesia seene this hearbe, and it hath two pretie names, it is by some called Loue in Idlenesse, and by some Hearts-ease: with that Adellena fetcht adoepe, though counterfeit sigh, which Artesia noting, sayd: What maketh you sigh to haire it named Hearts-ease? Marry (quoth she) one way, because those two names so ill agree: an other, soz by the same I call to remembraunce the hearts grieue I heard a young man com- plaine of procured by loue, which was not in idlenesse, but I think in good earnest. Why quoth Artesia, can loue procure such hearts grieue to any, and not rather content? Yes, sayd she, because the party in loue, hath no hope to attaine the good liking of the party he loueth. Then quoth Artesia, I account him a knave, that will loue so deepeley without hope of reward, and that to be rather spon- nesse then true friendship, that placeth his affections with such in- equalities. But I pray tell mee, what is he into whose secrets you were so suddenly admitted? Not admitted, quoth she, soz un- aware I heard his complaunts, which afterwards, I promised him not to make any acquainted withall, but the party whom he so intirely loueth. Then quoth Artesia, I may not know, neither doe I care, soz it is but a vanity that troubleth ones cogitations: Yes, quoth she, you may, and shall if you please, know whos he is, conditionally, you will neyther be offend with me for telling, you, nor reueale what I shall impart. Why, qd. she, am I the par- ty, or doth it any way concerne me, that I should be offend? If it be, then keepe your counsels unreuealed, soz it will proue vna- uoy to my stomacke, soz be it far from me, to be troubled with the vaine suites of booring louers: yet let me answer, qd. Adellena, you beare too grieuous a conceit of loue; which is the divine party wher- by hearts are baited in vertue, without the which, neither mo- tals can attaine heaven, nor other creatures haue they, being therefore not to be abhorred: and soz that any shold haue your selfe, can that be any offence to you, but rather be accepted in this sort: wee shold by nature loue them that loue vs, then will you contrary to nature yeld hatred soz loue: For you indeed, are the party

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party that is beloved, and the party that is so farre in loue with you every way to be commended, and no way discommended, whose name, I will not reueale, and then I hope I shall b<sup>e</sup> no offence to your eares. Doe so, quoth Artesia, so; concealing the same you please me, and if you will be welcome into my compa-  
ny, use no more of these speeches. Had I thought, quoth she, they  
would haue beeне offensive, I would not haue uttered them, but  
in so doing, I did but fulfill your request: then at my request a-  
gainst, quoth she, give ouer. After this communication s<sup>e</sup>wed, they  
parted, Adellena home to her house, and Artesia to her supper,  
and afterwards to her chamber, where at first, some cold thoughts  
of those speeches past in her fancies, but afterwards she spent the  
rest of that night in quiet sleepe.

### CHAP. I I I.

How Adellena conveyed Ornatus Letter into Artesias Casket,  
and with what impatience Artesia tooke the same.



The morning being nebly appoached, Ornatus who had so long expected the same, arose and soone got to Adellenaes house, where he arrived before she was vp, who having knowledge thereof, soone came bothe to him, (taking him to be no other then Or-  
tus his man) to whom she declared the  
very truth of all her speeches had  
with Artesia. which nipt him at the  
heart, but being in some hope by her persuasions, at last  
giving her a purse full fraught with gold, in recompence of her  
paines past, and to entice her to undertake more, he said as fol-  
loweth.

Good Adellena, be not dismayed to prosecute my suit, for Ar-  
tesias first stroyne, so; I am not Ornatus man, but poste Ornatus  
him.

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himselfe that languish with desire to attaine her loue, which I would my selfe prosecute, if the discords betwixt our parents did not hinder the same. Therefore, I beseech you once againe doe something in my behalfe, for you see how cruell destiny hath shut me from all meanes to be put in practise by my selfe, and you may pleasure me without any hazard at all: for which I will rest so thankefull vnto you, as that you shall account your paines taken well bestowed.

Sir, replyed she, I would vndertake any thing to further you, if I knew which way, but I perceiue Artesias frowardnesse is such, that nothing I shall bring her will be welcome: but if you will advise me what I shall do, I will once againe hazard the losse of her good liking for your sake. Which said, Ornatus wrote a Letter, which he desired her by some meanes to conuey to her sight, the contents whereof were these.

### To the Fairest Artesia.

FAIREST of Creatures, bee not offended with my boldnesse, but rather fauourably censure of my good meaning; for being bound to honour none but most vertuous, I thought it my duty to giue you knowledge thereof, desiring you to pitie the extremity of my passions, procured by the attainture of your conquering perfections. I confesse, you may alledge many things, as reasons to disswade you from giuing credit to my speeches, or yeelding me the least fauour in your conceits: yet I beseech you, make but tryall of my loyalty, loue, and dutie, so farre as shall agree with your liking, and you shal finde me constant in one, and perseverant in the other, as one that hath submitted himselfe to your command, vowed his deuotions to purchase your fauour, and euerlastingly bound himselfe to be onely yours: vnable to expresse my humble meaning, vawilling to be offensive, and desirous of fauour: then I beseech you be fauourable to me, though bearing the name of an enemy, in whom you shall finde the true heart of a constant friend, whose safety, comfort and preseruation, re-

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steth in your power. The first view of your beautie (which was in the Valley when you were last hunting) surprised my heart with such humble regard to your vertues, that ever since, my heart hath indued the bitter torments of fearefull dispaire, which vrgeth me to this presumption, desiring from your sacred lips to receiue my sentence of comfort, or affliction, rather then to spend my life in languishing vncuealed torment. Then bee you gracious to him, that is otherwise most miserable, and shew fauour to an vndeseruing vnknowne friend: so shall you not onely shew, that you are mercifull, but also saue a miserable Louer from viceruine.

Your humble friend,

Ornatus

Adellena having received this Letter, told him, she would deliver the same: which the next day she performed in this sort. Being come to Arabistus house, she continued most part of the day in Artesias company, not once remouing the least remembrance of the talke shee had with her the day before: but espying her open her Casket, wherein shee put her worke, whilst Artesia was busie, shee priuily conueyed the Letter, vnseene, into the same, which by and by Artesia locked, for none but her selfe had the key thereof.

Adellena thought long till shee was gone, fearing least Artesia shold vppon some occasion open the Casket againes. And so stide the Letter whiles shes was there: thereso're shs soone found meanes to depart. When the time of rest was come, and Artesia alone in her Bed, taking a Wake (according to her usuall manner) to reade a awhile, shes suddenly fell a sleepe, and in her sleepe was possest with a dreame, wherain her thoughts called to remembrance Adellenas speches, which moued such a disquiet conceit of anger in her Braine, that thinking shes had thid her, with the motions of her spirits shes awaked, feeling an exceeding di-

Temperature.

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Semperature in all her parts, and seeing the light still burnyng, she maruelled at her drawnesse, that had before forgaſt to put the ſame out, and by this meanes, called to remembrance Adellenas ſpeeches, maruellng what he ſhould be that was in loue with her; and ſuddenly againe reproving her ſelfe, ſo; giuing her minde liberty to thinke of loue, ſhe would haue banift all further remembrance thereof out of her minde: but the moze ſhe laboured, the moze vnable ſhe was to preeuale in ouer-maſting her fancies, that being both vexed with her ſelfe and Adelena, ſhe uttered theſe ſpeeches.

What diſquiet is this poſſeſſeth my heart, procureth ſuch unuolnted cogitations to riſe in my fancies, and diſturbeth my reſt? I was not wont to trouble my thoughts with ſuch vaine cogitations, which the moze I labour to ſuppreſſe, the moze they increase.

Could Adellenas ſpeeches haue ſuch force (which I had well-nigh forgotten) as thus long to ſtucke in my remembrance? O, what reaſon haue I to regard them, that were not worth the regarding, but rather tended to demonstrate the affection of ſome ouer-fond louer, that ſicketh to entrap my chaſtity? Accurſed be her lips for uttering them, and would to God, I had bene deafe, that I might not haue heard their iu-chanting ſcound.

This ſaide, ſhe caught vp her Booke, thinking by reading, to diuine away all remembrance thereof, but her heart was ſo fully poſſeſſt with a kinde of cogitation, what he ſhould bee, that ſhe neither could reade, or when ſhe had read, remember what ſhe did reade: and finding this meanes not availeable, ſhe ſtarred from her Bed, opening her Casket to take out her Campler, wherein ſhe tooke moft delight, when ſuddenly ſhe ſpyed the Letter, and reading the Superscripti-  
on, was halfe aſtoniſhed therat, especially how it ſhould come thers, and what the conteinents ſhould bee, being often-  
times in minde to tear the ſame in pieces, and not read  
it, which her heart would not ſuffer her to doe, before  
ſhe had ſeen what was the Conteinents: yet drudging  
to ouer-maſt her Affeſtions, ſhe tooke the ſame

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in the middest : which done, such a remoue rose in her fancy, uniting with a desire to knowe further thereof, that leaping into the bed, she closed the same together, and betwixt a willing and unwilling minde, reade the same throughout. With that, fetching a deepe sigh, she sayd : Aye my poore soule, how are my affections betrayed to mine enemy : Was it Ornatus she meant : can it be, that he will proue my friend, that is my professed enemy : O no : he intendeth nothing lesse then loue, but rather vader colour thereof, seeketh my ruine. Was it he that I beheld in the Valley : or is it possible, that he shoulde bee so dearely in loue with me, vpon that small sight : No, no, I will not credit his speeches. but still repute him as an Enemy, as indeede hee is ; and henceforth abandon Adellenaes company by whose meanes this Letter was conuayed into my Casket : then tearing the same into a thousand pieces, she abstained (so neare as she could) from all thought of yeelding the least consent to loue, and sought to encrease her disdain, and suspect of his falsehood, spending the rest of that night in confused contrarieties of doubtfull thoughts. Carely in the mooring she gat vp, and within short time met with Adellena, (who was come, and desirous to know what issue her deuice had taken) and finding occasion fit when none was by, she uttered these speeches.

Adellena, I marnell what folly ruleth your minde, that you (whom I had thought had beene so vertuously giuen) should seeke my ruine : wherein haue I shewne my selfe so unkinde, that you shoulde requite me in this discourteous sort ? You remember the speeches past betwixt vs the other day in the Garden, when I finding out your intent by your speeches, desired you to giue ouer to vs any more talkes to that effect, which you faithfully promised, but now most unfaithfully haue broken, and more impudently haue betrayed my quiet with your disquiet and il-sounding newes : if your rubenesse hath beene such, that you could not desist, you might then haue delivred Ornatus false and fained incayement into my hands, and not so secretly haue conuayed the same into my Casket : wherein you haue made me amende for my

sins,

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

lone, to seeke to betray my life into the hands of mine enemy: soz otherwise, I neither can noz will esteeme him. Thereforez hence sozwards come no more into my company: soz I soz swaere your familiaritie, hate your counsell, and will cause my father to banish you his house, and alienate his friendship from you soz ever.

Adellena would haue answere: but Artesia refusing to heare her, departed, and left her so much grieved, that soz extreme vexation, she immediately departed towards her owne house.

### CHAP. IIII.

How *Ornatvs* despairing, left his fathers house, and disguising himselfe, was eatertained of *Arbastus*.



*Ornatvs* desirous to heare how Artesia had accepted his Letter, came to Adellenae's house, and found her weeping soz anger: desiring to know the cause thereof, which shee declaraed to him at large: which wrought such an exceeding passion of griefe in his minde, that without yeelding her eyther thankes soz her paines, soz other speech, he departed, being so much ouercome with inward sozrow, that finding a solitary place, he layd himselfe doowhe upon the Earth vittering these lamentations.

O miserable Catife! what hast thou to doe, but lament, when thy ill fortune yeelds nothing but cause of lament: Why should thy life last to endure these tormentes, and not rather to dissolve into unseene essences? Could any thing haue hapened to me more miserable, then to behold Artesia, and now to endare her cruelty: or more fortunate, if shee had bee ne mercisfull: But my Destinies haue drawne mee, to like her that hateth me, and to become thzall to a cruell unrelenting enemy. Well, my Love is sweeter then my Life, and therfore I will venture Life and all, to purchase her Uking.

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Having said this, he a while sat silent, when suddenly, to favour his extremities, he beheld certainte of his familiars passe by, with whom he departed home.

Early the next morning (being exceedingly troubled in mind, and impatient of delay) he left his fathers house, to visite Adellena againe, whom he had the day before left so unkindly: whom he found readie to goe to Arbastus house againe, and saluting her, said: Adellena, be not offended at my last unmannery departure: for my heart was so much disquieted at the ill successe my fute tooke, that I could not use that behaviour towards you, your paines deserued: but now, I am returned, to crave your counsill what is further to be done herein.

Sir, replied she, I know not what further meanes to use, neyther dare I any more attempt to try Artesias Courtesie; who is already so much offended with me, that I feare to lose her friendship for euer, if I shoulde vster that againe that is so unwelcome to her.

Ornatus hearing her speches, thought she was unwilling to prosecute his fute any further, and with a heauie heart left her, entring into many thoughts and cogitations, which way to comsest himselfe, oftentimes bitterly despairing, and yet purposing to leauue no meanes untried, no danger unattempted, though with hazard of his life, to purchase some rest to his troubled heart.

At length, he thought with himselfe, what shoulde make Artesia so hard-hearted, as to gue no credit to my speches: it is not her want of lenitie, pitty, or wisedome: for she is young, and therefore subiect to loue; beautifull, and therefore to be woane; wise, and therefore will with consideration pittie my sorrowes. What then shoulde alienate her good liking from me, more then from another? My Name; for by that, she reputeth me an enemie: then, were I not Ornatus she would peraduenture give soms regard to my fute. Therefore, I will change my Name, and be another then I am, that she not knowing me, may (if not loue me) yet desist to hate me. Then began he to studie, what meanes to use to enjoy her sight

## of ORNATVS and ARTE SIA.

ight (without the which, he could not live) and yet not be knowne what he was. Amongst many other Deuices, this tooke deepest roote. Within few dayes after (having prom-  
ised all things necessarie) he attyzed himselfe like a Virgin of  
a Strange Countrey (which he might well be esteemed to be,  
by his youth) and taking with him his Lute, wherewch he  
could play exceedingly well, in the silent of the Night he de-  
parted towards the Sea-coast, which was neare unto Arba-  
stus house; and seating himselfe vpon the Rockie shuze, he  
gan to play vpon his Lute. Early the next morning, a Shep-  
heard happened to passe by that way, and espying his strange  
Disguise, and hearing his swete Musick, was so exceedingly  
delighted therewith, that he stayed to see what he was.

Ornatvs turning himselfe about, espyed the old man, stand-  
gazing vpon him; wherewith he dwelte towards him, and said  
as followeth:

God Father, muse not to see me in this unfreighted  
place, being by Shipwrecke cast on this shuze, and preserved  
from a grievous death by Sea, to perish for want of comfort  
on the Land, in a strange place, where I neither hane friends,  
nor know which way to get comfort: Wherefore, I beseech  
you, yeld comfort to my distresse, and succour to my want.  
Faire Damzell, quoth the Shepheard, if my homely Cot-  
tage can neede you any comfort; so please you to accept thereof,  
it shall be at your command; whither so please you god,  
without more circumstance of speeches, you shall be most  
heartily welcome. I thank you, quoth Ornatus, and I ac-  
cept your gentle proffer: so they departed together. And when  
they were entred, and the Shepheardelle in the best manner  
she could, had welcomed him, and he had tasted of such foode  
as was set before him, he told them, his Dame was Sylvia,  
telling a Tale of sufficient Countenance to beare credit, of  
the maner of theyr Shipwrecke, and the cause he vndertook  
that Voyage by Sea: which the olde folkes beleuued. Like-  
wise, framing himselfe to such a kinde of behaviour, that it was  
almost impossible to discerne, but that he were a woman in  
deed.

Where

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Wher Sylua (soz under that name he shall a while passe) stayed some two dayes, yet without any hope how to enjoy Artesias company. But the third day it fortuness Arbastus being abroad in hunting, was by a violent storme driven to seeke shelter, and most fortunatly lighted on the Shepheards Cottage: where he boldly entred, without calling; and suddenly espynge Sylua, was halse astonished to behold a damzell so beautefull and richly pertyzed in that homely place: but after that he had a while viewed her well (Sylua being alone) with a courteous behaviour, he thus spake:

Faire Damzell, pardon my boldnesse, if I haue disquieted you: I little thought to haue found such ghests in this homely place. Sylua knowing him to be Arbastus, arose, but made him no answer: when presently the olde Shepheard came in, using great reverence to Arbastus: who demanded of him, what Damzell that was: whereupon the old man declared all that he knew.

Arbastus then thus said: Damzell, I understand by this Shepheard some part of your misfortunes, which I so much pitie, that I offer to doe any thing resteth in me, to doe you pleasure: And soz that this homely place is not agreeable to your birth, which may be greater then I can iudge of, let me desire you to accept of such entertainment as my Habitation yeeldeth; whether you shall be welcome. Sylua being glad of that proffer, yet fearing to be discovered, by his willingnesse to yeeld, made this answer: Sir, this homely place is best agreeing to my poore estate, being by my fortune brought to miserie: which I am also priworshie of, soz that I know not how to make my Host amends, desiring rather to haue in this quiet place, boord & care, then in places of more dignitie: but soz that I shall be too chargeable to this poore man, and you so earnestly desire me, I will be so bold as to take your proffer, though unable to be so gratefull as I wold. Many other speches past betwixt them, and in the end they departed towards Arbastus Castle: wher Sylia was kindly and worthily entertained, having his hearts desire, which was to enjoy the sight of fairs Artesia.

Ornatus

## of ORNATUS and ARTESIA

Ornatus being alone by himselfe, began to meditate of the god successe he had in this attempt, and how fortunately all things had fallen out to further him in his loue. But most of all, he maruelled how the eyes of all that beheld him, were blinded, that they could not perceiue what he was. In these and many such like comfortable meditations, he spent some thre or fourre dayes, taking most great content in beholding Artesias perfections, that he was more and more inthrallled in the bands of vowed affection, hearing her speach, noting her behaviour, admiring her vertue, commending her courtesie, affecting her beauty, and imprinting each limament of her diuine forme, in his devoted affection, with such immoueable resolute of constant loyalty, that hee did not onely loue her, but also honour her as an Idoll, being by Arbastus admitted her company, that at all times he was with her. Artesia likewise tooke no little pleasure in Sylvians company, in whome so much courtesie abounded, that every one both liked, and commended her.

### CHAP. V.

How Adellena brought newes to Arbastus house, of Ornatus suddaine departure. How he named himselfe *Sylvian*, a long time enjoyed her company, and what successe he had in his loue.



Adellena having heard of Ornatus departure from his fathers house, and of the exceeding care and griefe his parents took, fearing least he might by some treachery bee murdered, with which newes she came to Arbastus house, and soone published the same, that the newes came to Arbastus his hearing, who was exceedingly sorie to heare the same, soz that he esteemed well of Ornatus. And now comming into the Garden, where Artesia was walking with Sylvian, He could

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could not withhold her selfe from speaking, but uttered her mind in these words.

Artesia be not offended with that I say, but rather be displeased with your selfe, who are the originall of this woe. Ornatus, whome you supposed your enemy, though indeede your most fauorit friend, taking your unkinde resuall most brauely, and accounting hymselfe not worthy to live, if you despised him, either hath wrought his owne untimely death, or despairing to finde fauour at your hands, hath abandoned both his parents, country, and acquaintance, to live in exile. What will be sayd of you, when the cause of his sorrow shall be knowne? how may your owne conscience accuse your selfe of heard heartednesse, that would not yield pitty to the distresse of so worthy, vertuous, and courteous a Gentleman, who for his humble suite, was spightfully disdained, and his hearty good will disdainfully rejected? Which cruell deede of yours, no doubt will be one day repayed with the like disdaine, where you shall most affect. I know his loue was firme, constant, and immoueable, which maketh me so much the moxe pittie his estate: I know his meaning was both vertuous and honourable; his birth you know: what vertues abounded in him, all can witness, and how heartily he loued you, the heauens can witness. Woe Ornatus farewell: Hard was thy hap, to place thy true loue so firmly, where thou reapedst so little reward. Artesia hearing her speeches, could not tell whether she might blame her, or accuse her selfe, sometimes doubting whether she spake this of policy to try her, or of truth, being as ready to blame her, or accuse her selfe. sometimes doubting neither: So she thought, if she spake true, she had good cause to say that she did, and her selfe moxe to blamed then any. So notwithstanding she had giuen Adellena, so flat a penyall, yet her conscience knew, that some sparkes of loue were kindled in her breit: That her heart being somewhat opprest with these thoughts, caused the water to stand in her eyes. Ornatus seeing all this,ooke no little comfort therat, especially when he perceived Artesias heart to relent: but so that by this disguised, being knowne no other then a woman, he kept silence them

## of ORNATUS and ARTESIA.

When faine he would haue spake, least he shoulde discouer hym selfe. Adellena seeing she had disquieted Artesia, being herselfe full of griece, and unwilling to vrge her any further, departed. And Artesia withdrawinge her selfe from Syluian company, into an Arbour, vttered these speches: And can it be, that Ornatus loue was so great, that for my sake he hath done this? Could he loue her so constantly, that was her professed enemye is loue of such a force, to draw ons into these extremities? Then may I compare it to the hearbe Artes, found in Persia; which being but holden in the hand, causeth a heat throughout all the body: so loue, but entertained in thought, disquieteth all the sensces. But why doe I conceiue so well of Ornatus, when I know not the truthe of Adellenas report? it may be, he hath hired her to doe this, and theraby I may be deceived, yelding to pittie when there is no cause, and with the Bird Akanthus, ready to come at every call. Admit it were so, I am not bound to favour him: is he not my enemy, and soon to my Fathers chiefeest foe? what reason then haue I either to give credit to his loue, or her protestation, when both may be fained? Well, I will be aduisid; before I yeld my selfe to loues intangling bates, and before I loue, I will know whom I loue. I, but Artesia thy fancy yeldeith remore already, and thy conscience bids thee pitte him, because he loueth thee, for loue in a reputed enemy, may be as constant and loyall as an open friend, and an one my becomming a friend, will be the more constant: then what hast thou to doe but make further praise of his constancy, and finding him true, yeld reward to his desert? soft Artesia, wade not too farre: if he be constant, if he be loyall, if he loue thee so intirely, yet now thou hast made him forfaine this country, or procure his untimely death, then there is nothing else to be done for thee, but to pitte his death, and accuse thy selfe of some discourtesie. All this while, Ornatus shrowding himselfe from her sight, by the thicknesse of the greene leaues, heard her speches, to his exceeding comfort, and againe closely withdrew him selfe. Artesia hauing ended her speches, her hart being opprest with many doubts, arose and came to Syluian, to whom she said: My minde is much troubled with the newes

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Adellenasellane of Ornatus absence, whom, say that you know not, I will tell you what he doa. quicquid scilicet   
 There dwelleth not farre hence one Alinus, that mortally hateth my father, and all that belong unto him, whose sonne Ornatus is, whom if I shoulde remeind, you might thinke me to counseil to refuse his loue so unkindly, alay thus much I loathynge of him, he was every way worthy to be beloved, though my fancy could never be drawne to like of him: who, vpon what occasion I know not, but as Adellenas told mee, made his loue knowne to her, which she likewise told me of: but I refusing to heare her, answered her plainly, that I was greatly offended with her, for making any such motion, and so bid her for ever to speake of him againe. But now this day you haue heard what she hath told me, which I can hardly beleue to be true, or that Ornatus would be so rash without iuiscame to enter into such extreames. But if it be so (as I should it were not) it grieveneth me for him, and I wish that I had not refusid to heare his fute, though I am not loth-  
 ling to yea thereto: so I would not haue it said of me, nor my name so much blazed, that my crueltye prouid him to that ex-  
 tremity, though his iuosome might haue seruened such mis-  
 chiefe, and he made moderately haue temperid his loue.

Ornatus taking occasion, said: I neither know the Gentle-  
 man, nor how constant his loue was, but thus much my mind  
 perswadeth me, that had not his loue bin great, he would not  
 haue grieved so much at your unkindnesse: but loue is of this  
 force, that it turneth the mind into extreames, or utterly brea-  
 keth the heart; which force belike it had in him, else would  
 he not haue done himselfe so much harme. But it may be (as  
 you say) Ornatus hath not done himselfe outrage, but only a-  
 bandoning company, linck in despaire: so meaneth to dye:  
 which if it be so, then in my fancy, you might doe well to let  
 him by some meanes understand that you did pitie him. So say  
 there, quoth Artevia, you must first know, whether I can doe  
 it, or no: for if I shoulde say, I pitie with my lips, and he not  
 find it so, it would drame him to moare despaire; and therefore I  
 will leaue off to doe that, untill I can finde whether I can do  
 so, or no. These

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

These her speeches drame Ornatus into a perplexed doubt, what to thinke, being no way assured of her loue, nor yet utterly despairing thereof, for that her speeches gaue a likelihood of both. Therefore he durst not speake too bochtly, least she should suspect him, but onely rested in god hope to finde comfort, and by other meanes to try her.

There taking his lute, he began to play so sweetly, as wold have rauisht a compasseless minde, with great content: to heare which Harmonie, pleased Artesia so well, that when he left, she wold request him, calling him Sylvian, to play for gaine. Whiles he late playing, Artesia sitting close by his side, fell fast asleepe: which he perceiving, left off his play, to larse himselfe with beholding her swete beautie, in which he tooke such delight, as almost rauisht his sences; sometimes thinking, whiles she slept, to imprint a kisse upon her blithe raddie Lippe: but fearing thereby to wake her, and lose that delightfull contemplation, he desisted beholding each parte of her visiblie forme, which was most divine, his minde was affected with inward suppose, what perfection her hidden beauties did comprehend, which his lutey persuaded him, he did in conceit absolutely contemplate. Then seeing her stirre, he suddenly catcht his lute againe, striking his swete spouse, to continue her in that summe, and then againe taying by the same, to enter into his former contemplation: Comparing his delight to exceed all heavenly joy; and wishing, though Artesia could not loue him, yet that she wold alwayes grant him so to behold her.

When he had a good while continued in these meditacions, Artesia awoke, which somewhat grieved him; but when he beheld her beautious eyes fixed upon him, he thought him selfe enriched with a heavenly happinesse: To whom Artesia said: I thanke thee, good Sylvian: for thy sweet Musique hath somewhat eased my heart by this quiet sleepe. O what content doe they enjoy, that live free of care: and how happy was I, before I heard Ornatus name: with that, she arose, and they together went in: when night approached, (which Ornatus thought to see come, for by that, he must

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lose Artesiae's sight) every one betooke themselves to their seas, and Lodgings.

Ornatus, studying what meane to use, to further his loue, wherein he found many difficulties: sometimes, in thinking Artesia was in hope never to heare of him againe; and sometimes supposing she did pittie him with. And being ouercome with contrarieies of doubts, he uttered these complaints:

What shoulde I doe to procure my Content: when my Miseries are one way great, and my Joyes as exceeding; when my Despaire exceedeth, and yet my Comfort aboundeth: I enjoy Artesiae's loue, yet she loueth me not; I enjoy her sight, and yet not her sight: I haue as much Comfort, as fillis me with Joy, and yet I am desperate with despaire. How can that be: she loueth me as I am Syluan, but hateth me, because she loueth not Ornatus: Under the Name of Syluan, I enjoy her sight, but not as Ornatus, and so am I deprived of her sight: I reape exceeding comfort by beholding her Beauty; but I live in despaire, that she would shun Loue, if she knew what I were. Though I enjoy many things, by being Syluan, yet I am deprived of all comfort, as being Ornatus: for she deemes him either dead, or dead, having no hope ever to see him: and if I shoulde shew any signe that he were living, as nere, she would presently eschew my company: which, being as I am, I may enjoy. And thus am I void of all meane of attayning her loue; yet living as I am, I shall still enjoy her loue.

Why Ornatus, thou hast better meane to gaine her knowledge of thy loue in this Disguise, then if thou liuedist as Ornatus. Suppose thou shouldest make knowne to her what thou art, thinkest thou she would bewray thee, considering thou offeredist no other behauour towards her, then that which agreeth with Vertue? Or what if she did betray thee? wert thou not better to endure the greatest extremitie by her done, then pine away with griefe, in her absence? Yes Ornatus, in being as thou art, thou art more happy, and therefore mayest thou be in some better hope of comfort. What if she will not loue thee? yet for thy good will she cannot hate thee: And though

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though she know what thou art, she will rather conceale that, then bewray that. Then try whether she loueth thee, o; no: but how? Make my selfe knowne? No: I will write a Letter, which I will leane in some place, where she may finde it, and by that meanes I shall see whether she will loue, o; no: And taking Penne, Ink, and Paper, he wrote as followeth:

To the most veremous Artesia, the forsaken  
Ornatus sendeth humble  
greetings.

VV Ere you but so mercifull as fayre, I would not defayre of pittie: Or were you willing to know my truth and loyaltie, you would, though not yeeld to my Suite, yet pitie me. I cannot vse protestations, nor dissemble griefe: but be you most assured, that what proceedeth out at my lips, commeth from my heart. Extremity maketh me ouer-bold, and Despaire maketh me more desperate, in vterring my minde: I cannot chuse but say, I loue you, for that I loue indeede. I cannot set forth my loue with filded tearmes; but in plaine truth protest, that my loue is constant, loyall, vertuous, and immouable: and though you hate, I must loue; and though you for euer deny to loue, yet will I persist in constancie for the worst I can endure, is Deaht; and that my Soule alreadie inwardly feeleth. I haue forsaken my Parents, Friends, and all, to become acceptable to you. For whilst I was *Alliis* sonne, you did hate me; then, I beseech you, now that I am not *Alliis* sonne, nor *Ornatvs*, pitty mee: For without your pitty, I die, and little can my death profit you, but letting me liue, you shall for euer enjoy a faithfull seruant. So, most vertuous *Artesia*, I commit my cause to your wise consideration.

Tours inseperably, neither Ornatus, nor  
himselfe, but your poore  
Sernant.

athen

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whan he hat written this Letter, and sealed the same, the next morrow he layd it in a place of the Garden, wher he knew Artesia wold walke: And from thence, comming to her Chamber, he found her ready to gae forth.

Artesia welcomed Syluan kindly, and sooth they went together, and walking vp and downe a pretty while, Artesia espred the white paper, and desirous to see what it was, tooke it vp, reading the superscription, marueling what the Contentes shold be, and how it shold come there: and turning to Syluan, said: Hes you this Letter, it is directed to me, I maruell how it shold come here, unlesse it were laid of purpose: well, howsoeuer that was, I will reade the Contentes, and you shall be partaker of them. Whan she had reade the same, and well understand, that it was Ornatus, at the first, she was so exceedingly vexed, that she said: I now perceive, that Ornatus was wiser then I tooke him to be; for I see he hath committed no outrage vpon himselfe, but wisely will cry me first: and if I will not yield to lone him, what will he doe? Sparry, returne to his Father againe. This is Adellenaes doing, and according as I thought, they are agreed; she left this Letter here, and her I may blame, and not him: for did not she promise him to doe it, he would never of himselfe attempt it. Syluan I pray thee counsell me what I shold doe herein, for my heart is oppressed with many thoughts, that I will not utter, vntill I know thy minde.

Syluan thus answered: Since you haue given me licence to speake that whiche my heart thincketh: first I say, if Ornatus loneth according as he protesteth, as no doubt he doth, you haue good reason to pitie him, for that by your owne report, he is every way worthy thereof: which if you doe, you shall be sure of a constant Friend, preserue his life, and make vnitie betwixt your Parents. As for Adellena, if it were her dede, she did but the part of a friend: but it was very unlikely, for that she was not here since yesterday. Perþher can I think any man can dissemble so much, as to make these protestations, and yet be false: for his wordes, in my fancies, beare an evident likelihood of truth. Therefore,

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if I may counsell you, yield to that in which is vertuous, and in so doing, you shall purchase your owne good, his content, and your peccual quiet to both your familie.

Would you haue me then (quoth she) rede to loue mine Enemy: how is he your enemy (quoth Sylvian) when he loseth you? He is mine enemy, because his father hating me, how can he loue me? Nay rather (quoth Sylvian) his father not louing you, how can he chuse but loue you, because he seeth them hate you, that are worthy to be beloved? besides, their hatred being unjust, it hateth his worse the more, to loue those his parents hate: and it is commone expeire, where there is hatred betwixt the Parents, the children haue loued most dearely, as in commone expeire it is seene: haue you not read the Historie of Pyramus and Thyssy, Romeo and Juliet, and many other, whose loue was the more constant, by so much the more their Parents hated them deadly?

I remember such Historie (qd. Artesia:) but what was the end of their loue, was it not most miserable? yea, yea it was (quoth Sylvian) which was giuen to them by their Parents cruelty, but not their Loue, wherein notwithstanding they tooke such felicity, that they rather chose to liue together then to be parted: which argueth, that the louyng of their Parents, cannot breake off loue betwixt their Children; yet might such tragical events haue beene prevented by faire dame. But how know I (said Artesia) whether Ornatus loue be so constant, as you say? Can you haue any other proofe thereof then his owne letters, the forsaking of his Parents, and living peradventure in peyne and affliction? I doubt not that once againe syphum, will (said Artesia) diuise her counsell, but in feare thereof, shewes her selfe reservation: but shew thou art so farward to doe me good, which I haue for thy sake, if thou wil forgo my counsell, thou shall breake both loue wheresoever I intend, dispeare my selfe (qd. Artesia) I tell you without loue me life there yronne onfaithfull, when said the Confession the Sylvian, that loue hath made entrance into my heart, that I wold willingly both miss Ornatus, for garting his loue.

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so that with often rememb'ring him, I cannot forget him, neither doth any thought please me, but when I thinks of him. But there are so many slips to hinder our love, that though I lose him, I shall never find him. For should my parents know thereof, they wolde paye so heavily into my a-  
ctions, that it were impossible for me once to have a sight of him, whome I doe scarce remember, I have so selome seen him. You may (quoth Sylvian) both loue him, and enjoy him and thinke you haue beginning to like of him, he being too-  
shytheate, and equalling god in creation, conceale that loue,  
and right I haue once come to speake with him, I wold not  
doubt but often all things with Lucy University, that you shoulde  
with quiet enjoy him.

Well, quoth Artesia, I woulde all to you, my lise, for  
that dependeth on my loue, being willing to doe any thing that  
shall not disagre with modesty! Desiring you to kepe my  
counsels secret; for to revele them, may indanger both his  
and my lise, and (ARTESEA 60) according to the commandme-  
nt of other wroting other spaches past betwix them. Addeleme the  
first the Warden Artesia alwayes her, at the age of 15 graunted  
her. Goddome, whis Addeleme, I knowe not whether I may  
saile thens a chalenge a party the, for that by the meane of I  
was brought into Goddome.

I praye the beffit of your conculsing (whiche I haue me-  
senee could bee for me) when thou fallest Ornatus: and yet  
I knowe the answere beynge I haue. Dwell thou not under the  
Warden: & shew thy selfe to her when this Warden, that I haue  
named with the Warden, cometh to her, that be her com-  
panie. And when thy selfe, whiche I haue named with the Warden,  
I haue by and by will be, her, but also may I be her Com-  
panie. Dwell thou not within the warden shew, shew thy selfe  
with the concreyn, and haue not bawdrie. I haue bawdrie  
nowe, and by and by haue the trayn, that shewe not  
such as haue. So, ther wold I haue, shewe not, bawdrie  
by conscience, and pereament. See! Christus, I am  
cōfessyng my sinnes in this conuictiōne.

Addeleme bawdrie, ther wold I haue, ther wold I haue  
57 58 bawdrie.

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

Strangenesse, that so; a god whille she stood as one sencelesse but at the last shee made this answere: Your demands are such, as that I know not how to answere them; but heauens punish me, if I dissemble: I saw not Ornatus, since the time he came to me, to know how you accepted the Letter I conneyed into your Casket. For that Lester, I am altogether ig- nozant therein, neither did I ever see the same before now: I never spake with Ornatus, saw Ornatus, or heard from him, since I last gave him your answere; neither do I know wheres he is: but this I know, that he is not to bee found, but poor Gentleman, languisheth in loue, which I dare protest louely you most dearely: neither neede you misboult, that hee is absent, or thinke that hee is hidden at my house; soz it is too true, he hath taken such griefe at your unkindnesse, as will I dare me, indanger his life.

I wold it were not so, but that he were at my house; then wold I counsell him rather to forget to loue, then indanger his life thereby.

May I beleue (quoth Artesia) that this thou sayest is true? Deauens let me live no longer (quoth Adellena) if I dissemble. Then (quoth Artesia) how shold this Letter bee conneyed into this Warden, but by himselfe: with that, the Cry, shall teares fell from her eyes.

### CHAP. VI.

How Ornatus loue was hindered by the newes of Arbasins death. How Floretus, to attaine Sylnians loue, both confessed hee slew Arbasins, and intended to poyson Artesia.



Daugement Artesias teares, a Messenger ha- stily running, came in, and brought this newes, uttering the same with a gashly countenance.

O Artesia, heare my tragicke discourse; your father as you knowe rode forth this mor- ning to chace the fearfull Dore, who wandring from his com- pan2

## A The most Pleasant History,

pain, at last by his long stay was miss, and all of us comming together,��bied amongst our selues, what shoud be become of him: at last we were commanded by Floretus your knuckle to post severall wayes in search of him; whom at last we found most griesously wounded, and dead. Artesia hearing his woors, with sudaine griefe fell downe dead. Which when Sylvian perceined, caught her in his armes, rubbing her pale cheakes untill she was revived againe. Then they conueyed her to her bed, in such extremity with that sudaine griefe, that they feared to loose her life; which exceedingly tormented Sylvian to behold. Then was there such an uprore in Arbastus house, as all seemed in bitter despaire, one coniecturing this, another that, of Arbastus death: but all in generall, concluding, that it was done by Allinus, in revenge of his brothers death.

Arbastus wife likewise conceiued such sorrow at this unexpeted event, that with verie griefe thereof she dyed. Artesia with both together, was ready to yeld vp her latell breath; and had done so, had she not beene carefull preservd by Sylvian, and Adellena: Who by their counsels and iudegments, pacified the extremity of her perplexity. This newes was soon spread into most places of the country: but because there was no iust proue of the marcher, there was no great question made thereof. Arbastus having never a tracy friend to prosecute revenge, Floretus now tooke uppon him to rule and gouerne all that belonged to Arbastus, as his brother, and soone caused him and his Lady to be worthily interred, and builte a sumptuous monument in their remembrance. Which being ouer-pall, he came againe to Artesia, (as in the meane time he had oftentimes done) and finding her very weake, vised many speeches to comfort her, giving such as were about her speciall charge, to minister all things necessarie, to restore her to her former health: Swearing to be most carefull of her Guard, promising and protestinge to be unto her in stead of a father.

Sylvian all this while was exceedingly grieved in minde, to see his alone groane so weake, and in such danger of her life:

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

not once forsaking her in all the time of her sickness, but continually comforting her with hearty speeches, and carefull attendance; not so much as once departing her Chamber, but taking exceeding paines to please her; that shee twike great comfort in her supposed Sylvian, who oftentimes would weale a sweete in her Artesias Lips; which he permitted, taking the same to proceed from a courteous minde, when Sylvian did it of deepe affection; accounting the estate wherein he liued, to exceed all others; and his deightfull compaines proffessing many familiaritie that Artesia tolde in halfe part, whiche otherwise she shoulde haue revealed, had she knowne whome her Companion Sylvian had bee.

Ornatvs maruelled, that all this time she spake not of him; which he deuided to do her to doe, by many occasions; but these Extremities had banished all remembrance of him, out of her minde, whiche exceedingly lamented. Ornatvs fearing, this delay would some way turne to his ill: That whereas before time he was pleasant, and merry, and oftentimes would move Artesia to mirth by his dispeale; now that humour was alienated, and he became continually melancholly, and sad; oftentimes when Artesia was from him, getting into a solitary place, to bewayle his hard fate. Whiche he noted, and wondered at, thinking the same had proceeded from being so long absent from his Country and Friends. One day he found her deuided Sylvian solitary alone, and comynge unawares, heard her utter these wordes: Oh, how unhappy am I, to loue, and to be beloued! Sylvian espying her, leste off, to whom Artesia said alasse, I am in loue, and you with her now Sylvian, are you in loue? Can it be, that your Minde is attainted with that venomous Serpent, that polloneth the Fentes, altereth the Complexion, troubleth the Head and Heart? Shake it off, and cast it out of your sight: for it never did any good, but hath brought many to perpetuall miserte.

Since you haue ouer-heard mee (quoth Sylvian) I must needs confess I am in loue, whiche doth not any way worke

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any such effect in me, as you speakes of: but I take all comfort therbin; my sensess, herte, head and all my parts, take exceeding pleasure therein. Whyn then (quoth Artesia) sit you thus penitually alone, as it seemeth to me bewraying your estate to be in loue? I doe not (quoth Sylvian) sorrow that I am in loue, but that I am not beloved againe: for being in loue, I hane vowed to live so ever; and sooner shall my life decay, then forget my loue: so; with my loue, my life shall end. What hard-hearted man (said Artesia) is he, that knowing you loue him will not loue you againe? Such is my heare estate (said Sylvian) that the party whom I loue, knoweth I loue, and yet caulessly doth hate me: neyther am I farrre absent from him, but enjoy his company; without which, my life would decay. Is he in this house, you loue? Can it be, you are intangled since you came hither? No (quoth Sylvian) I loued before I came hither. How can it be: when you are a stranger, and cast in this Country by shipwrecke: eyther you must needs be some other then me take you for, otherwise these things are impossible. Now if you dare put trust in my secrete, impart your minde to me, and I promise you I will doe the best I can to further your loue. You may doe much therin (quoth Sylvian) and none more then your selfe: but I beseech you, pardon me for revealing the same, before you assur me of one shing which you may do without any harme to your selfe, and be not offended with me, if I aske you. Tell me what it is (quoth he) and I will asswete you. Then (said Sylvian) I would still know whether you loue Ornat, ay no? Whith that he sterted, saying: Ah me, that name bringeth death to my heart, and thou woundest my soule with griesse, to heare him named! Dost thou thinke I haue cause to loue, and not rather above all men to hate him? Dost thou not see my Father lately marthered by him, or some by his appaintment, and thinkest thou I can loue so deadly a man, by whom I am brought to this meserie? No, assure thy selfe Sylvian, according as I haue iust cause, I doe hate him, as the greatest enimie I haue: whose very name affrighteth me with terror: and if thou hast loued me, as I was perswaded thou didst,

thou

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then wouldest not have troubled my heart with that ominous name. And yet, for all this mischefe that he hath done me, wouldest thou not see how he cared for my loue, and had so much praynged, that in heart began to yelde his suete? With that, she pulled out of her pocket the Letter, saying, These lines, the fruits of his dissimulation, were actors in his willaine: with that, she toze them into a thousand pieces.

Sylvian seeing the same, was ready to swoond with griesse, and breathing forth a heart-burning sigh, said: O, how is poor Innocencie suspiced! And being ready to say more, was disappointed by Floretus comming, whoe euen then entered the Garden: and finding them cut, used many courteous speches to them both, especially comforting Artesia, to whom he said: Deare Comyn, since these mis-haps cannot be remedied, let wisedome now aye stow your pallenate sorrow, and with patience remit all further griesse; for things past cure, are not to be lamented: but now commit the care of your safetie to my trustynesse, that will as tenderly regard your good, as mine owne life. Therefore be of comfort, and whatsoeuer you desire, shall be to the uttermoste accomplished. Artesia yielded him many thankes: and so they went in.

Artesia being alone by her selfe, could by no meanees forgett the party she had with Sylvian: & by reason thinking the said dissimulation, by her selfe other then the former; or else, that she was in loue with Floretus. Then she remembred her speches saying, How is Innocencie suspiced! which she knew she spake, by her aduising of Ornatus, which made her into many unquiett cogitations, and troubled her sences exceedingly: but by reason of her little suspect of Sylvians Disguise, she continued iuging any thing therof. Sylvian likewise not daring to offend her, and louing her so dearely, that he could not endure to see her disquiet, did her more speches tending to loue, but frequenting her company, wherin he toke his whole felicite, accounting himselfe most happy, to live and enjoy her sweet presence, being out of hope to attaine her loue, refreshing his heart with many solaces of sweet delight, in beholding that which the right thought he had noted in her. Many

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Many daies continued Sylvian in this Disguise: in which time, Arbatus death was almost forgotten: And Floretus, drawn by Sylvian manifold mercies, began exceedingly to affect her, using such kinde behaviour towards her, that she suspected that which afterwards she found untrue. For Floretus conceiting his love, felt the flame to burne the more inwardly: and living in that scorching Penurie, thought it better for him to manifest his love, then by hidyng the same, Augument his torment: assuring himselfe to obtaine his desire, for that Sylvian was a stranger, farre from friends, and without his friendship, likely to come to Penurie: which he thought would be meanes of importance to draw her to like of him. Besides, he thought that he might doe as he list with Argelia, for that she was onely his to command. And on a day, finding Sylvian alone in the Garden, comming to her with a submisse behaviour, he sayd as followeth:

101 On deare sylyan, I wold gladdly offer a mether of any just  
proffesse, if you wll bouchsafe me gentle and iugre: for it is  
faire Damosell, that my heart hath long tyme bene entreated  
to your Beuty, which I have refrained to offer, fearing  
to be refused: but knew you how faythfully my heart is bound  
to your seruice, and with thate regement I have concealed  
the same upon me, and me. My deare sylyan, I wll nowe  
telle you whiche hethoughht me to my selfe as yondesir: you shal l  
live with me in contentednesse, and haue to my selfe and com  
panie a frind as no boymennes affliction shall alter. Therer  
fore I beseech you to conueine me somtyme to come to you, where  
gentle frindes in which shal be spelt no unquietnes from me, for  
my deare sylyan haue muche aane to abstaine from sumtyme, so thinke  
how chaste he wylle yeld such a regement as thys: thererfore  
be conuainid to further consideration shewe of a certayne man  
wherof he wylle shew this regement: for yndesir past that, shal  
19. by my wytnde, folt, as hympe to entertaine hym, conserning  
hys forre I am foynting of sumtyme to send him fro me, for me  
to enterteyn hym: therfore I wylle yeld yf he cometh that all my  
hands, which I wylle obey hym: hympe to my selfe shal be  
yndesir

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may lins so quietly as since my comming I have done, I thanke my selfe more beholding to you for that, then for your proffered loue, which I cannot yeld unto. Floretus thinking her soft answere was a signe she would scorne yeld, still prosecute his suit with earnestnesse; in so much, that Syluan tolde him, that as yet he could not fancy him, because she had not tryed all of him, but that she would consider further thereof. And so for that time they parted.

Floretus in hope to attaine that which was not to be had, and Syluan in hope by this meanes the sooner to attaine Artesias loue. First, considering that Floretus had the disposing of her, and therefore he must please her, least other wife he might be deprived of her company: Then he began to think of Arbastus further, knowing assuredly, that it was not acted by his Fathers counsell, but rather by some secret foe, that might as well be Floretus as any other, for that he was the next Heire, if Artesia hindered him not: Which coniecte tooke such effectuall instance in his fancy, that with that his suspect, comparing Floretus behaviour, countenance, and little enquiry for the Martherer, he plainly suspected him; which by the Divine Providence, rather then by any accident profe, was stirred in his opinion. Such further is never vndealeed, and though never so closely done, yet God by some extraordinary meanes doth other concealeth the faulnes. So came it to passe with Ornatus, although he was no way privy to any such act, or had any probability thereto, yet yee thought that Floretus countenance betrayed his treachry, and therefore he longed to haue some conference with him, to see if he could gather the truth, whereby hee thought both to discharge himselfe of that suspect Artesia had of him, and also when we saw his innocency and constancy, shee might yeld to loue him; purposing to leane no meanes vntempted to try him: which he did the next time he spake with him, in this sort.

Carely the next Morning, Floretus not vnmindfull of his loue, which kept him from his sleepe that night, never left till he had found Syluan, and comming to her with manifold sub-

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miss speeches, solicited his saite: whom Sylvian cunningly handled, still putting him in hope, and yet making him no promise, which set him the more on fire, being so farre ouergone with affection, that he purposely determined either to winne her loue, to hazard his owne life, and to leauie no meanes unattempted, were it never so dangerous, to procure his owne content: That the more unwilling he saw Sylvian, the more impotunate he grew. Till at last Sylvian said as followeth: Floretus, I know no reason you haue to be so impotunate, when I see in you no token of fidelity: but once having attained your purpose, you will esteeme me as lightly as easly wonne: Besides, I see not how you can performe any such matter as you promise, for I bestr in a strange country, haue nothing, and you soz ought. I see, as little: then, by matching with you I shall but bring my selfe to pouerty, and miserie, and then your loue now so hot, will be as colde, and I as rejected, left off to bitter miserie. Floretus not suffering her to procede any farther, made this answere: Sylvian, doe you not see Arbatus wealth, will not that be sufficient: the great possessions I now enjoy by him, are of substance to maintaine you in all quiet, and yeld you your hearts content. Arbatus wealth said Sylvian, that is Artesias by right, then how can you possesse the same, she living: Doe but graunt me loue said he, and I will quickly satisfie you in that: I haue a meane to get all into mine owne hands; and therefore I beseech you, let no such matter trouble your minde: but be assured, that in injoying me, you shall haue all happines and quiet, by my humble, duti-  
full, and constant loyalty. Doe but assur me of this (quoth Sylvian) and you shall know my resolution afterwards.

Artesia entring the chamber, brake off their speeches, whose presence vexed Floretus at the heart, being scarce able to speake, by reason of his inward rancor: so indeade he hated Artesia, because she onely kept him from possessing his bro-  
thers living, the want whereof, kept him from attaining Sylvians loue: therefore he resolved by some meanes to broke her co[n]fessall; which within short time was acquainted Sylvian withall by this occasion.

One

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One day finding her alone in a secret place in the garden, after many speeches past betwixt them ; whereby he perceived, the chiefe thing that hindred him was his want of wealth, and after that Syluan had in some sort made him a grant (only to try him) he began to utter his full intent in this sort : My deare Syluan, I am so well periwades of your vertue, and put such confidence in your trulynesse, that I will reveale to you the very depth and secrets of my heart, would you but sweare to keepe my counsell : for to purchase your content, I haue determined to put in practise a matter of secrete, which concerneth my life to be revealed.

Syluan hearing that, thought it better to sweare a thousand oathes, and breake them all, then by nicenesse to endanger the life of Artesia, which he supposed he aymed at ; promised him by many protestations, to keepe secret whatsoeuer he told her : wherevpon Floretus, vrged with hope to win her loue, and imboldned in mischiefe, cared not what he did to attaine his wil, said, as followeth : Syluan, you see Arbastus is dead, which was one stop that kept me from injoying great possessions, and my purpose is, so you will but vouchsafe to aide me therein, to be so rid of Artesia : & then al that belongeth unto her by her fathers death, shall be yours to dispose of. Sylvians heart throbbed to heare his speeches, but determining to list him to the full, id as followeth : Floretus, I am sure you speake this onely to try me, and so to trap me, and not of any intent you haue to per- forne the same, wherein you shall doe me great wrong, & your selfe no god : for I cannot beleue you bear the least thought to do it. By heauen (quoth he) it is my full intent ; & for that you may be assured therof, it was I that slew Arbastus, howsoeuer the matter is imputed to Allinus, and purpose likewise to be rid of Artesia, onely for your sake.

Therefore make no doubt of my resolution : for I am absolutely purposed to doe it. O (thought Syluan) rather shal I thinke my bloud, then spill one drop of hers. Why Floretus, would you haue me doe any thing therein ? You onely may doe it (quoth he) with more safety then any other, and the manner how, is this.

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Within some mile from this Castle, Arbatus hath a banqueting house in his parke, where oftentimes he would haue his recreation ly, whether I will perswade Artesia to goe for a season, to take the ayre, and to recreate her sences, dulled with griesse; and none but you to keepe her company, and some two seruants, whose trustynesse I am assured of. This done, I will get a drinke to be made, the sovre wherof, shall expell life, and yet by no meanes nor any cunning or skill be found out, whiche when you shall thinke convenient, giue unto her: and being once dead, who shall make any enquiry, but that she died a naturall sicknes? and so this matter may without the least suspition be effected: and then you shall be mistresse both of her heritage, and my selfe. Sylvian said, when shall this be put in practise? Within these two dayes at the farthest, said he: in the meane time, frequent you Artesias company, in such familiar shre as heretofore you haue done, and my selfe will use her with no lesse kindnesse. Many other speeches being past between them at that time, they parted.

### CHAP. VII

How Ornatus told Artesia of Floretus intent, and vpon what occasion he discovered himselfe.



Loretus being by himselfe, began to consider how rashly he had committed his secrets to Sylvian, entring into these meditations: Doth Sylvian thinke that my policy exceedeth not her shallow capacity; þeþre simpl stranger, she hath vndertaken a matter of importance for me, that means nothing lesse then goodwill to her: she, for my loue, hath promised to poyson Artesia, and is likely, for that once done, to taste the same fawre: for loued shē me never so well, I will not trull her with my life: but peraduenture she hateth me, and will reueale my drift to Artesia. So Floretus, thou art deceived, shē is so farre in loue,

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loue, that the viceroy, and vobis, I am sure, bee any thing at my request. What a world is this? What vileny can be intended, that some either for favour or reward will not execute? If I should trust her, that is so easly wonne to doe such a haynous deede, might I not be accounted madde? Yes; and therefore I will not trust her: but Artesia being once dispathe, she shall follow next.

Ornatus on the contrary part, was glad that he had felt the depth of Floretus counsell, thinking likewise, that he was so farre in loue with him (taking him for a woman) that for his sake he sought Artesias death; which was the only means to helpe him attaine her loue: which he likewise determined to give her knowledge of, and discouer himselfe; hoping, that when she saw his innocencie, his faithfull loue, and how by his meanes her life was preserued, she would yeld him due guerdon for his good will. Whilist he was in the depth of those cogitations, he espyed Artesia enter the Garden; and taking his Lute, found her seated vpon a flowerie Bank, under the shade of a Myrtle tree, and perceiving that she was somewhat heauily inclined, he sat downe by her, and with his sweete melodie brought her a sleepe: when she had slept a good while, being exceedingly affrighted with a Dreame, she started vp, looking earnestly vpon Sylvian, saying; I pray thee Sylvian, doe not poysone me. Sylvian seeing her so affrighted, was exceedingly amazed, and she her selfe, not yet fully recovered, seemed to be afraid of him: till at last Sylvian said; I beseech you, what is it that affrighteth you? Sylvian, said she, I dreame that thou wouldest haue murthered me. Heauens forbe (quoth he) that I shoulde attempt so haynous a deede: But would you vouchsafe to heare my tragicks report, you shoulde be rid of that doubt, though Sylvian is much tempted to doe such a deede; who esteemes your life more deare then mine alone, and woulde rather with mine owne hands teare out my woefull heart, then think the least thought to wrong you. But because I haue so fit occasion, and I hope your patience will permit me, I will rehearse a most monstrous and haynous intended Mischiese. The otherday, I remember, you were

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exceedingly offended with me, for naming Ornatvs, for that you supposed him to be an actor in Arbatus death: but both he and Allinus are innocent, and farre from any such thought, for your Uncle Floretus was his murtherer, which he tolde me himselfe. He hath bene oftentimes impofitunate to win my loue (which another posselleth) but I suspecting as much as I now finde to be true, held him off with this delay, That he had not wealth to maintaine me: Which when I had often alledged, he tolde me, all that belonged to Arbatus, was his. Then I demanded how that could be, since you were louing: Quoth he, Sweare but to be secret, and I will tell you how: With that vpon my protestations, he told me that he had murdered Arbatus, and meant to poyson you; persuading me to consent thereto, for that he said I onely could doe it. With that, I (not purposing to doe it, but to preserue you) promised him my vttermost assistance; which he tolde me shoulde be done in this manner: I will (quoth he) persuade Artesia to forsake this Castle, and to ioyurne some few dayes in a House Arbatus hath in his Parke, where none but you and two other servants, whose secrete I nothing doubt shall keepe her company, where I will giue you such a potion, as shall end her life, and yet by no meanes be perceived: neyther can there be any doubt theress, for that I, and none else, am lefft of her, binded, to search the truthe. This is the summe of that he tolde me.

Artesia hearing her words, sate like one without sence a good space, being so farre ouercome with griefe and fear, that she could not speake a word, but at the last she burst forth into these lamentations: Ay me, unkinde and most vnnaturall Uncle, canst thou speake me so faire, and intend me so much harme? Who would haue thought so loule impiety had bene shrouded under so faire pretext? Couldst thou be so vnnatural, as to murther thy owne most naturall, louing, and deare Brother, and not contented with his Tragedie, to sake my painely death? What frenzie or folly doth possesse thy breſt, that I esteemed replete with vertue? How canſt thou ſuffer ſo impious and haynoſus a thought to ſinke into thy breſt, much leſſe

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

lesse to act such a notorious Outrage against him that loued thee as his life, and her that honoureth thee as her friend? O Sylvian, may I credit thy words, and not rather accuse thee, and excuse him? May I thinke him so simple, to trust thee with his secrets? No: I feare me this is some policy invented by thee to some bad end. Yet I pray thee pardon me: for what canst thou get by telling me so, valesse it were so? or not rather haue kept his counsaile, and then thou mightest haue been my Heyre. And pardon I aske of thee, good Ornatus, though thou art absent, for that I accused thee as accessarie to my Fathers death, when thou art innocent. With that, a flood of teares stopt the passage of her speech: and Sylvian said, Artesia yet vouchsafe to heare my counsell, which shall prevent all these eminent evils. You may peraduenture make some doubt of the truth of that which I haue spoken: but I take Heaven to record, no word is false; for I regard your god abone all things, and your quiet abone mine owne content: for should you dye, I could not live, for by that I draw my breath. I dined into Floretus counsailes, not to ayde him, but to prevent them; for that I knew Ornatus was no way guilty of any such treason, but would haue ventur'd his owne life, to haue preserved your Fathers, whom he both loued & honour'd as himself, of whom I could haue told you more, but that fearing to offend you, and partly seeing how vehemently you accused him, I durst not, whose loue is toyall, and thereon I will passe my life. Sylvian (quoth Artesia) thou tellest me things of wonder: but especially that thou art so priuie to Ornatus thoughts, and that thou darest so boldly affirme he loueth me, when thou mayst be deceipted. Most vertuous Artesia (quoth he) were you but so priuie to y thonghts of his heart as I am, you would say as much as I, I beleene all that I tel you; and to put you in assurance of what I know, I give you knowledge that I am Ornatus, y in this disguise haue sought to attaine your loue: for which boldnesse, I most humbly desire you to pardon me. With that, a ruddie blush spred it selfe in Artesias cheeke, before pale with feare, being so ashamed he had bin so priuie to many of her actions, that she could not tell with what countenance to behold him.

Then

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Then Ornatus said, I beseeche you pitte my torment, which hath wrged me to this boldnesse, a being frustrated of other meanes to enjoy your presence ; my meaning being no other then vertuous, but resting at your mercisfull disposition : verryng you to put assured confidence in me, for preventing Glorius intent : which you need not doubt of, for to my grise I know it to be too true.

Artesia marvelled exceedingly at the strangenesse of these speeches ; but most of all, admired Ornatus loue : which she could not tell how to reteate, for that she both well knew he deserved loue, and the necessity of time was such, that her safety rested in his secrete : yet being not willing at that instant to yield, without further assault, said : I know not what name to call you, when neyther I know whether you are Sylvian, or Ornatus : but which of both, your words beare great shew of true friendship, which I feare me is not grounded in your heart, neyther doe I greatly care : for since my Uncle seeketh my life, let him take it, for I am weary therof.

Let not your gentle heart (quoth Ornatus) make any doubt that I am Ornatus, though my counterfeit disguise doth shew me other : but either vouchsafe me loue, or give me leau to die for Artesia : for that potion that shalld dispatch you, shall end my life : for my life is bound to your command, and all my felicity resteth in your favour : Which unlesse you grant, my life without the same will be but short, and the time I haue to liue, and endlesse labyrinth of sorrow.

Adellena by occasion entred the Garden, and found Artesia weeping, and Sylvian in a heauey dumpe, ready to torment himselfe, to sic her sorrow. But Artesia aspyng her, said, Adellena, doest thou loue Ornatus so much, as that thou wouldest hazard Life and Credit to doe him good, for that I know him to be a most vertuous and honest Gentleman : I, but wouldest thou (quoth she) kepe my counseil, if I reueale a secret of importance to you concerning Ornatus : And vpon Adellenas promise, she sayd : Doe you know Ornatus, if you see him ? Behold there he is. Adellena was at the first halfe astonisht at her speeches : but at last, she perfectly remembred that was

## of ORNATVS and ARTESEA.

he loaded ; revoying moste sparingly to see him thare, expect-  
ally with Artesia. Then they declared unto her all that had  
happened, and of Floretus intent, delivring her to be secret, and  
make no shew of discontent, least he shold suspect Sylvian  
had bewrayed his secretes : and after somes other spachess past,  
they went in together.

### CHAP. VIII.

How Artesia departed to the Lodge with Sylvian, and from  
thence secretly departed to Adelinais house: and how Or-  
natvs taken to be Sylvian, was by Florents Accusation, and  
Artesias want, banished.



It fell out in the next day, that Florent  
with divers of his company, amonge whic  
was his neare friende and Dyce Lecon,   
being incouerred with drame, arrived at  
Arbuthnott, thinking to haue foun  
him there, but the living haunting of his foun  
tain death, was exceedingly fayre, perishing  
ding himselfe, as all men else did, that he was slain by some of  
Allinus men : which made him muche to greate chere  
but reported to his willinge. Now in the meanes, while Lecon  
beheld Artesias beautie, and fayre shew, the selfe of the new  
exceedingly bewitched : that after he was gone, hee could by  
no meanes forget her ; but determinyd to long, to reserue  
to her if he could attaine her loue.

Soone the time was come that Florent had appoynted to let  
abroach his willinge, and according as Ornatus had before  
told Artesia, he came to her, perswading her for a reason to  
lve in the country : whiche she, as fayre amies, consented unto : &  
to the next morrow, Medith Sylvian, Floretus, and others  
there, departed : the night Floretus returning who had  
talked with her, according as he had promised Sylvian, told  
Ornatvs, that were to provide them treasures, but knew  
no part of the Conspiration. When Ornatus and Artesia were

alone

## The most pleasant History, to

alone together, for that she had voluntarily affuted of his  
loue & fidelity, she shud these cosentable speeches unto him: Or-  
natuſ, þis þe is a lweare before this time, too bilitately I have  
reuiued you as a fre. I know craye pardon, being sorry that  
my heart hath done you so much wrong, which now I will  
requite with kindnesse. I confesse, it was strange to me to en-  
tertaine loue, but now I willingly yeld my selfe to be her sub-  
iect, and your true and faſtfull friend: committing my selfe  
to your caſtody, and my loue and selfe to be yours to diſpoſe of.  
Ornatuſ bearing her ſpeches, was rauished with a Heauen  
of loue: with a gentle and kinde behaviour holding her in his  
armes, and imprenting a ſweete kiſſe vpon her Mote lips, he  
ſayd: Neuer was poore wretche eraulted to more Happinelle  
then I am, by being enriched with this inestimable treaſure of  
your loue. O how rich a wretche haue I now reaſt for my  
loue! and what glorie, loue, or wealth, can be compared to the  
riches of your loue? O heauenly Arctis, how fortunate haue  
you made Ornatuſ? Haue haue you bleſſt Ornatuſ? How full  
of loue, Ornatuſ by your full conſent & vll answere and so bri-  
lliantly, ſo qualitied: for this hirniente who loue? will not  
ſeeme more then my tongue can vther, and be moare faſtfull  
then your heart can brith. Then began they to embracie each  
other, and to ſuſt the ſidens in ſyndid true loue geþoþt: þ  
þe ſome imprenting her kniſſes, and thei with intered pay-  
ing ſime ſo greefe for the ſaint bloue, ſnow and ſo many tumbra-  
ſing, as are not to be explicated: their handes & hearts toynd  
in ſuch ſtraine handes of true affection, as is not to be diſcraied;  
& ſurfeſting with ſuch exceeding conſent, imposſible to be de-  
cribed. These ſympathies of loue ſome where mitigated, they be-  
gan to conſult of their dangerous ſtate, and to deuise how to  
preuent the intended miſchiefe. In this place they continued  
ſome two daies in exceeding content. Till exianding to heare  
from Florentuſ: who the thrid day ſeemed to haue any boſſyn  
matter of ſuch import, come hirniente to ſing the potion (þe  
in them of kindnesse to beſte Arctis) deliuering the ſame to  
Sylvian, willing her the next night to giue it her: whiche ſhe  
promiſed him faſtfullly to accomplish.

## of ORNATUS and ARTESIA.

When he was gone, Artesia came to Ornatus, to know what newes Floretus brought: who told her all, and shewer her the boylon in a Glasse, which he had charged shold be gitten her the next day. Whiche that Artesia began to myple, and exclame against her bucke in most extreame soyle. But Ornatus intreated her to ceale such baine grise, which could not hurt him, but her selfe: promising her to prevent the same, if she wold follow his counsell, which she willingly yelded unto.

Then quoth he, let vs presently depart from hence to Adellenacs house, which you know is not farre off, who you know, is agreed with vs already: where I will leaue you and returne. Whiche sayd, while the seruants were absent vpon some speciall occasion, they departed, with little laboz attaining at Adellenacs hause, who was ready to receive them: and after many farewells, Ornatus returned backe to the Lodge. And when it was supper time, the seruants brought vp meate, but Ornatus told them, Artesia was scarce well, and therefore they wold not sup that night. And being alone by himselfe, he studayed what excuse to make for Artesias absence, when Floretus shold come: spending that night in much care, and many vnquiet cogitations, which tooke away his sleepe.

Floretus was no sooner returned from the Lodge, but he met Lenon, who of purpos came to meet Artesia, whom Floretus kindly saluted, marmelling much wherefore he came: to ease whiche doubt, Lenon sayd.

My friend Floretus, I came to visite the faire Artesia, to whose beauty I am enthrallled, not as regarding her wealth, but her swete loue, of whom you onely haue the governement: wherefore I pray bestriend me so much, that I may come to spech with her. Floretus was so exceedingly amaz'd to heare his speeches, that he could not tell what answer to make, nor how to excuse her absence. Lenon seeing him in such a straung, continued his speeches, saying: Floretus be not unwilling I shold match with Artesia, so that shall no way hinder your preferment, who think peraduenture the longer she lieth

## The most pleasant History,

unmar you, the moze wealth you shall get by her: but to rid you of that doubt, be but a meane to win her consent, and I do by Heaven, I will not take one peny-worth of Artesias substance from you, but straigly give it you all: For it is not her possessions I regard, but her loue, therefore I pray celoue me of your mind herein.

My Lord replied he, your offer is so bountifull, besides myduty brging me, I am ready to perfore your will to the vittermost of my power. I thanke you good Floretus, quoth Lenon: then I pray thee bring me to her, for my loue is impatient of delay. My Lord, replied he, that I cannot do instantly, for Artesia some two dayes, past with the strange Damsell Sylvian, departed hence, and are now at the Lodge: whither (if you please to take such entertainment as this place yeldeth) we will both goe to morrow morning. Agred, quoth Lenon. I will accept your proffer. When the time of rest was come, Floretus being alone by himselfe, entred into these cogitations: What inconveniences hast thou runne into Floretus? thou hast syronone to murther Artesia, in hope to get her wealth, and made Sylvian acquainted with the counsell, which wealth thou mayst now attains by prefering her life: and besides, winning her to loue Lenon, thou shalt find him thy faithfull friend for ever.

What hast thou then best to doe? If thou shouldest murther her, he would make enquiry of her death, and so thou be vudone: If not, then will Sylvian be displeased, and so be wary thy selfe: that the mischieses thou by folly hast runne into, are so intricate, that thou knowest not which maye chanthen them.

Were it not better slaine her life, and win her loue so; Lenon, then to poison her, and so to dye my selfe? If I slaine her life, Sylvian will be discontented: what of that? Then let Sylvian smart for it: for if she will not be contented with that I shall doe, she shal never lise to bewray my counsell. And therefore will I first try her, and finding any suspicion thereof, I will slay her my selfe, whos death I maye easlier answere than Artesias.

Castig.

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

Early the next morning, Lenon and he rode to the Lodge; where no sooner arrived but he met with Syluan, to whom he says: why how now Syluan, I haue newes of importance to bewray to thee; Lenon whom thou here beholdest, is sonne to the King, and is dee pely in loue with Artesia, and hath giuen me assurance of Arbastus living, if I can win Artesia to match with him: Now I thinke if god to deserre our purpose as concerning her death, untill we haue made tryall whether she will loue him, or no; which if we can effect, we shall be quit of so cruell a deed, enoy her Heritage, and haue an assured Friend of Lenon, whilist we liue: therefore let me know your opinion herein.

Syluan was exceedingly amazed to heare his speeches: thinking, that if he did tell him where Artesia was, shee shoulde be wrested from his possession, and so himselfe disappoynited of her loue; and on the other side, he thought what mischiefe would arise, if he should say he had already givien her the Poyson. Yet his loue over-maistering the feare of any danger, made him say: All this I like; but Floretus, it is now too late: for I haue caused Artesia to drinke the Poyson you deliuered me, and she is dead; which was of such force, that all her body purpled into Blisters and Swellings: which because I knew would betray what we had done, I took her Body, and conuayed it into a deepe Pit, whers it is impossible to be found.

Floretus now fearing to haue his Treason bewrayed; thought to stabbe Syluan, and so to be rid of them both, that in a Monstrous rage he drew his Dagger, and unwarenes stooke Syluan in the left Arme: who feeling the smart, with violence more than Floretus expected, stopt to him, and in spight of his vttermost strength, wryng the Dagger out of his hands, and with the same wounded him in thrise places; and had not Lenon kept betwixt them, Floretus had haue staine.

Lenon having parted them, demanded what the matter was. Floretus thinking rather to accuse, then bee accus'd himselfe, and terrifled with affright, said: That wicked wo-

## The most pleasant History.

man hath murthered Artesia. Sylvian made no answere, until Lenon lay hold on her: demanding where Artesia was; she answering: By the enticement of that wicked Floretus, I gave her a Drinke, that unknowing to me hath possest her.

Oh wicked Creature, said Lenon, thou hast condemned thy selfe, and therfore worthily shall thy accuser Life make satisfaction for her Death. With that, she began to draw his sword: but Ornatus thinking it vole no time to dally, least he might by them be murthered, caught hold on Lenons sword, hauing such advantage, that he easly drawing it from him, and sayo: Worthy Lenon be aduised, doest thou seeke to spill my innocent bloud, without further consideration, least so the same thou lose thine owne. Thinkest thou I am as sancty and cutty as Floretus to be assured I am not. But if thou louest Justice, lay hands on that Draytor; for he, not I, is culpable of shedding her innocent bloud.

By this time Lenons seruants perceiving their consternation, came running in with their Swords drawn; by their Lords commandement, first apprehending Floretus, and afterwards seeking by violence to take Sylvian: but he standing in his owne defence, resisted them, alleadging innocency, till Lenon holde and protested, if he were not accuser thereto, he should haue no other then Justice, and that his cause should be heard before the King.

Ornatus thought it better to haue by faire meanes, rather then by compulsion; and esteeming it lesse griefe to be made a Prisoner, then to bewray where Artesia was, and so haue her taken from him, yelded: both of them being conuayed to the Pallace, and so that Night committed to severall Walsons.

Floretus being thus in durance, his Conscience so deeplye accusid him of Villany, that he continued suffering and execraying against his hard fortune; with bitter bannings layng against himselfe, soe trusting Sylvian, fearing with extreame feare of death desperate.

Ornatus

## of ORNATUS and ARTESIA.

Ornatus on the other side, tooke that trouble patiently, as endured for Artesias sake, fearing nothing, for that he knew himselfe innocent, and could easilie acquit himselfe of such accusation, purposing rather to hazard the worst, then bewray what he was; which to conceale, was his greatest care.

The next day they were brought before the Prince: where Floretus, vpon Sylvians accusation, confessed the Truth, both concerning Artesia, and how he slewe Arbasius: for which; hee was adjudged to dye within two daies. And, quoth he to Sylvian, for that thou art a stran-ger, and by his counsaile, rather then of thine owne tradi-tion, werst dratone unwittingly to doe that deed, I will pardon thy Life, but adiuge thee to be banished this Coun-try. And, quoth he, because I feare that some will seeke thy Life, thou shalt presently be conuayed hence: which doome shall stand irrevocable.

When gave he commandement, she should be conuayed to the Hauen presently: committing her to the custody of cer-taine rode Powres: Who not staying to heare what answere she would make (whereof powre Ornatus was not readilie pro-vided of in that Extremity) immediately carried her away. To whom Ornatus would haue tolde the truth of all: But he spake to them that understood him not. Who with speed ex-ecuting their Soueraines command, rudely haled her aboard; and haging syde, never rested, vntill they arrived neare the Coast of Natolia, where they were commandanted to leaue her.

CHAP

CHAP. IX.

Of the sorrow Artesia tooke for Ornatus Banishment: and of the severall Adventures befell him in Nacolia.



Artesia remaining in Adellenaes House, maruelled she heard not from Ornatus, according to his promise, which drawe her into some doubt of his safety; that comming to Adellena, she delred her to halle to the Lodge, to intreat him to come to her, for that by her hearts misdoubt, she suspected some heauie newes. Adellena immediately hasted thither, finding the Servaunts in great sorrow; whom she asked for Syluan. Aye me, quoth one of them, by this time shre is past speaking withall: for such heauie newes is besafine shre your departare, as grieueth me so bitter: yet notwithstanding, told her all that was happened.

Adelleta brouking no delay, whiche in these affaires was dangerous, stood not to imitate of those grieses, and howe untrarily every thing fell out; but with all haste returned to Artesia: who espyning her comming, thought her Countenance bewrayed soms unwelcome Accident, hastily enquiring how Ornatus did: Adellena, for want of breath, could not speake a good space, but at the last she sayd: Artesia, tedious lament is not now to be vsed, but speedy counsell how to save Ornatus: say he is carryed before the King, and is accused by Floretus, to haue murthered you: for comming to the Lodge with Lenon, the Kings senne, whos pretenthed great loue to you and not finding you, Ornatus told Floretus he had givien you the Payson: Whereupon Floretus woulde haue slaine him: but Ornatus taking his Dagger from him, had done the like to him, had not Lenon kept betwixt them. Then Floretus accused him for your death, and he Floretus: and both were ye, yerday carryed before the King.

Alas,

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

Alas, poor Ornatvs, said Artesia, what misery is befallen  
the for my sake: how art thou rewarded for preserving my  
life? God Adellena, counsell me what is to be done: Orna-  
tus being amongst them a reputed stranger, having no friends  
to pleade for him, and peradventure ouer swayed by Floretus  
perjury, may have his life indangered, and the rather, because  
he is taken to be a Natolian. Therefore, Adellena, if thou la-  
nest him o<sup>r</sup> me, wilt save both his and my life, and discharge  
him of that false accusation, runne to the Court, and finding  
out Lenon, tell him of my safety, and request him for my sake  
to pitte p<sup>r</sup>re Sylvian. Adellena according to her comman-  
dement, mounted a Horse, and with great sped, by that time  
it was night, attained the Court, and finding out Lenon, ut-  
tered these speches: Most worthy Lenon, wouldest to heare  
me speake the faire Artesia, whom you supposed dead, is a-  
live, and in safety at my house, who hath sent me to you, in  
the behalfe of Sylvian, fearing some wrong might be done to  
her, as suspected to be her death, when she onely hath preser-  
ued her life.

Lenon was so amazed at her speches, that he could not  
tell what to say, being exceedingly grieved for Sylvian, but at  
length told her what his father had done: which appalled her  
sences with deadly feare. Lenon, notwithstanding it some-  
what grieved him for Sylvian, yet his heart was glad to heare  
of Artesias safety, and therefore, his determined to goe  
with Adellena to visite her, which likewise he performed, and  
entring where she was, making exceeding lamentation, he  
said.

I beseech you grieve not, sayre Damzell, for Sylvian, for  
no harme is done to her, onely my Father, vpon her owne  
confession and Floretus accusation, hath banished her to her  
owne Country.

Artesia hearing his speches, with very griefe fell into a  
deadly trance, both Lenon and Adellena having much a dce to  
bring her life againe. And being conueyed to her Bed, when  
her sences were come to her perfect use, and Lenon standing  
by her, whose sight was most grieuous to her, she turned her

## The most pleasant History,

been from his sight, weeping such abundance of teares, that shee forsooke the place where she lay. Lenon perceiving that she was displeased with his presence, withdrew himselfe, and telling Adelena this charge. Adelena, since Arctesia is in thy custodie, I charge thee let her not depart hence, untill thou gearest of me againe, for if thou doest, thou shalt answer to the same, but if thou will send me friend, and in my behalfe, and treat her fandur, I will promise to gratafull a friend, and then shall account thy labour well employed.

He was no sooner gone, but Arctesia uttered these lamentations, soe accirted sorely, that I am, to be thus separated from my deare Lenon, whose conuentious minde is the fountaine of all vertue: how unforntunate am I nowe, by my fathers death, and my uncles crudelty, but especially by his folle, that is untritly banished into a strange Country, wheres hee poore true and loyall Gentleman, never set foote: how unhappy was he made, when he first beganne his loue: but now most miserables, by seeking to preserue my life, hath cast away his owne, and fearing to be disappointed of my loue hath quittes disuised himselfe from my sight, to hazard his person by sea and land. Is it possible that hee shaluer ever returne, being so farre conveyed from his mother Cople, and left to the merces of strange people, that will be ready to betray his gentlelles life. No, I feare me, never shall I be so happy as beholde him, and though I doe not, yet shal my loue to him remaine immouable. Wherefore, nowe will I ar me my selfe to endur all perills, to live in care, and continuall lament, soz want of beloued Ornatus, whose heart I knowe to repleate with so z newe, and peraduenture misdoubteth my loyalty, hauing bene so unkinde to him before: and knowing Lenons arietoun, may suppose his dignitie might alter my constancy. But sooner shall Ornatus heare of my death, then that I haue alterred my loue, or perdes his right to another, were he the greatest potentate in the world.

whiche sayd, another flood of heauish teares overflowed her eyes, and her passage of speach was stopt by heauy peturding sighings,

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sighings, which in confused multitudes issued with her sweete breath, never ceasing her lament, but still bewraying her true Loues absence, that it pierced Adellenas heart with such sorrow, that she wept as well as Artesia, both being so much grieved, that they seemed to strive how to exceede one another in lament. In which sorrowfull estate, Artesia remained so long, that she waxed extreme sicker; and gret to that extremitie, that Adellena feared her death.

Lenon likewise being come to the Court, got pardon of his Father for Fioretus death, but notwithstanding he remained in prison all the dayes of his life. Lenon likewise hearing of Artesias sicknesse, restrained from visiting her, only he would oftentimes repayre to Adellenas house, to inquire how she did.

Ornatus being left in the Country of Natolia, tooke his misfortunes in such heauy sort, that had not his hope to see Artesia, againe with held him, he had offered himselfe some outrage, for a season giving himselfe to sorrow and carelesse desperation, neyther regarding which way to provide for his safety, nor otherwise respecting what danger he might runne into, in that strange Country, for the Spinxes had landed him in a waste and desolate Coast of the Country.

Whan carelesse did he continue a whyle night and a day, not so much as seeking fode to preserve him from famine: but in the end, hunger constrained him to seeke succour, but when his stomacke served him, he could finde no meate, that with the extremitie thereof, calling to remembrance his estate, he bewred these plaints.

Thus contrary to nature to her subiects, sometimes haying them to the top of all felicity, and then with violence tumbling them downe headlong into the depth of extreme misery.

Was ever moe fortunate and suddenly miserable then I am? Could ever any man whatsoever attaine more heauenly felicity and happiness then I did, by being fittest of Artesia

## The most pleasant History,

and now againe more accurst, being thus farre absent from her, and banished my nativie soyle, into a strange Country, ready to be fainished and devoured by wilde Beasts, or that which is worst, never likely to see Arctia againe. How could any man containe himselfe from desperatenesse, being so miserable as I am? How can I withhold my hands from murthering my selfe, when by doing it, I shoud be ridde out of a wretched life? What shoud I doe? which way shoud I goe? Here I am in a desolate and vnfrequent place, where no humane creatures inhabite but wilde beasts; without fode, without weapons, in womans apparell, and without hope of comfort. Shall I stay here, then shall I be fainished; shall I leau this place, and traueil further, then I goe further from my beloued, and meeting with some rauenous beast, may be devoured. Now being hungry, I want fode, and here is none, vntesse I will eate the earth, leaues of trees, or rootes of the grasse. Well I will seeke my fortune, be it god or ill: and in this desperate moode he trauelled on, and by godes fortune found a Tree laden with exceeding pleasant, and goodly fruit, with which he stanched his hunger: not farre from which place he tolke vp his nightes lodging.

Carely the next morning he arose, first filling his belly, & then his lap, with that pleasant fruit; the taske whereof, was like pleasant wine, that being drunke in abundance, will make the head light: which made Ornatus heart merry, that he trauelled on a pace. But Fortune not contented with the misery he endures already, sent him another affliction: he entred into a place like a Forrest, beset with Trees of huge proportion, scattered here and there, where he met with a wild and fierce Boare that haunted those Deserts; who espying Ornatus, with a terrible groyning, bristled himselfe, comming towards him. Ornatus being now driven to his uttermost shiste, began to ranne withall his force from the beast: but he making the more spedde, had almost overtaken him, when one of the Apples Ornatus carried about him, fell downe, and the Boare espying the same, stayed his hast to take it vp, whereby Ornatus had gotten some little ground of him, & seeing him so

much

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

much affect the Frument, cast downe another Apple, after which the Boare ran with greedinesse devouring the same. Ornatus was glad of this poore shif, and still cast downe one Apple, and then another, that in the end he had almost thowne away all, and notwithstanding that, feared to be destroyed: But the Boare feeling his belly full, and his hunger stauncht, left off his eager pursuit, and followed him more carelessly; whom he full fedde with Apples, so long as his stoure lasted: that in the end the Boare being drunke with the pleasant Frument, began to reele and stagger, and lying downe, fell fast asleepe. Which Ornatus seeing, having no other then a knife about him, with the same approached the Boare, and without feare, violently thrust the same so deepe into the Boares bristled side, that it pierced his heart; and hee, after some strug-  
ling, dyed.

Ornatus then held vp his hands to Heaven for joy, exced-  
ingly applauding this his fortunate and vnderexpected escape; which he tooke as a fortunate presage of good successe. But yet before he could determine what to doe, Fortune once againe shewed her mutability: For when Ornatus had parted the Boares head from his huge body, and with the same was ready to depart, there past by, as it seemed, a Knight gallantly mounted in greene Armour; who espying a Woman bearing the Boares head, drew towards her, and said: Woman, where hadst thou that Boares head? I pray thee deliuer it me. Ornatus made this answere: Sir, I made not doe either, vntille I know more cause then as yet I doe. The Knight hearing that shrot answere, alighted, and said: I will shew no other reason, but that I will haue it. With that he began to strive for the same: But Ornatus having more minde to his Sword, then to keepe the Boares head, suddenly caught hold thereof, and drew the same out; which when he had gotten, he said: Disloyall and discourteous Knight, now will I keepe the Boares head in despight of the. With that, he thrust at him, and contrary to his thoeght, wounded him so deepe, that he left him for dead; wishing, that he had not done that deede: but not knowing how discourteously

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he would haue vsed him, let passe all further remorte, and casting off his womans apparell, put on the Knights apparell, and Armour, mounted the Saddle, and with the Boares head rode backe the same way, he saw the Knight come, and within a little space, found a beaten way that conducted him to a goodly Towne, whose Turret tops he saw long before he came to the same: then began he to stedy what to doe, sometimes thinking it best not to enter into the towne, from whence it was likely the Knight he saw came, and so he being taken for him might be knowne, and so afterwards endangered for his death: For peraduenture the Knight might be of good estimation, and of purpose sent to slay the Boare, and if it should be knowne that he had slaine him, his friends would for the same, and the rather for that he was a stranger, prosecute sharpe reuenge against him. Whiles he was in these meditations, he came neare the Towne, not fully resolued what to doe, where he was stonne stygged of some of the people, who seeing the Boares head, came running towards him, making exceeding ioy: which when he saw, he thought it too late to turne backe, but that he must goe on and hazard the worst: and being entered the Towne, a number of the inhabitants stoked about him, some with garlands, some with praiers and all with ioy, uttering these speches: Welcome houer most brave Alprinus.

Ornatus then perfectly knew that the Knights name was Alprinus, and went of purpose to slay the Boare, whom they took him to be, and that he must of necessity be knowne; which drane him into an exceeding care what excuse to make, to auoyd the danger of death. Then presently he beheld a troupe of beautifull Damzells, with the sounds of fainte Musike comming towards him, (amongst whom, one as cheise and maje beautifull then the rest, was crestoned with a garland of flowers, bearing another in her hand) who all at once applanded his victory, dancing before him, until he came into the middest of the Towne, where sat the chiefe Magistrate, where the Damzell that was crestoned, thus spake to him.

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

Sir Alprinus, your conquest hath released the Inhabitants of care, estoiled thy fame, preserved thy life, and wonne me for thy Dame. You have well performede the taske you undertooke, and according to your deserte I come to crowne you with these flowers, and to yield my selfe as yours for ever.

Ornatus hearing her speeches, thought to try the end of this adventure, which could be no worse then death, which of force he must now hazard. Rightly laying downe the Damsels head upon a Table that stood before the Ancients, with humble and comely behaient killing the Damsels hand, who set the heath of flowers upon his head, and taking him by the hand, brought him before the Ancients, one of whom stood vp and said: Worthy Gentleman, whereas before thou wert by us adiunged to dye, as worthy therest, so this thy valiant deede, we freely pardon thee, and acquit thee from all trespasses that thou hast committed against any whomsoeuer vntill this present houre.

And taking the Damsell by the hand, said: Lucida, according to thy deute and his deserte, I yield thee vp to be his wife. And Gentleman, quoth he, take her as thine alone, as freely as she was by birth adopted mine: and after my death, be thou inheritor of my land.

To all this, Ornatus gave a silent consent, and the night now appzoaching, he with Lucida went to her fathers house, where was a great feast provided, from which Ornatus excused himselfe in this sort: When he was enterred the house being still Armed, onely lifting vp his Head, he took Lucida by the hand, and withdrawinge her aside, said:

Lucida, I now finde your loue to be infallible, and your constancy to excell all womens that I have knowne: and that Alprinus is so farre indebted vnto you, as that he shall never (might he live a thousand yeres) be able to recompence this inestimable fauour of your loue, which hath preserved my unworthy life from destruction.

But notwithstanding, your loue Alprinus, his debt is

## A The most pleasant History,

so great, as can no way be gratified; I request one further  
faudur at your hands, whereon my chiefe & felicity dependeth,  
yea, implore, your Loue, and perpetuall Good: which  
I write to vitter, least you shoud misconceue the same; there  
being no other thing to hinder the content Alprinus seeketh,  
but onely your favourable consent, to banish all mistrust of  
my faith.

Lucide maruelled at his speeches; indeed loving him so  
well that he woulde haue spilt her loue bloud for his sake,  
saying: Alprinus, what need you make doubt of my consent  
to any thing, whatsoeuer it be, for your sake? know you not  
howe faithfull I haue continued, though you be in my enemy  
brother? and that I esteemed your loue farre deareer then his,  
Mine: and when you shoud haue dyed for that deede, obtained  
this at my fathers and the rest of the Antients hands, That  
saying the Wo which destroyed many people, you shoud haue  
your stonye wife, and winge onnes your loue. And nochich,  
standing all this, doe you make a question, whether I haue  
yours consent to any thing that shal be for your godes? O  
Alprinus, if your loue were so constant as mine, if you in  
swore to continue my loue so constaunce, if your heart fel so depe  
a vng of loue as mine, you wold not make such a doubt of  
my loyalty, of my truthe true loue, and constaunce: For you  
shoold wot where you shoud sworne. I will graunt; whatsoeuer  
you shoud request, I will performe: and wherein so  
ever a Louer may shalbe infallible tokenes of her truthe, I will  
doe as much as any: But since you wull not beleue me  
without an Dath: I sweare by my Loue, my invyneted  
Marguerite, and all the gods I wish my Heart, I will con  
sent, agree, performe, or doe any thing: not be offended with  
any thing, be the nevres never so vnwelcomme, so it be for Al  
prinus god; if I leane any thing unperformed, you shall re  
quite.

Ornatus hearing with what constaunce her speeches proce  
ded from her, and howe grievously she conceiued it, that any  
doubt shoud be made of her loyalty, thought most certainly  
that he might put his life into her hands, and therefore haning

alread

## of ORNATVS and AETRIS I A.

already studied a devise, sayd: It is a great chalenge, and shame  
to dissemble, and hardly could I have beene halidome thereto,  
but that desire to preserue loue, dwelme thereto: for I know  
most worthy Lucida, that I am not Alprinus, but vnde that for  
his sake, hath undertaken this: The truthe whereof, if you wyl  
heare with patience, I will declare.

Yesterday, I trauailed through the Forrest, v<sup>e</sup> Delfart,  
where I met Alprinus, soe wounded, and lying from the  
Wode, that pursued him with certainte, whiche when I beheld,  
to rescue him from death, I set upon the Wode, and by god  
fayrene fawne him: whiche when he beheld, he declared to me  
the cause of his comming: whiche when he heare, plucking his  
State, I bid him take the Wode heare, and forswere, hopeing him  
to mount his horse, but his wounds would not suffer him  
to ride, that I was in some feare of his life: whiche presentlie  
was beheld an ancrene Wermite comming towards vs, wholli-  
ued in a Cave in those walnes, and bifornke to cure his  
wounds, bring glad of the Wodes death. To whose Cell I  
conveyed Alprinus: at whose request, I have performede this  
whiche you see, and have unmettakn to hazard my life, to dis-  
charge him of death, and to win the allured possession of your  
loue.

John I most humbly intreat you, for his sake to conceale  
wher I am, that I be not knowne, and soe both unsappoint your  
selfe of his loue, and him of safery. Only seke me a meane to  
excuse me from their heale whiche I shal you tell due for Al-  
prinus sake, and then we may haue thus to say for your fur-  
ther content.

Lucidas loue made her behelde, that all he sayd was true,  
and therefore sayd: Sir, I trust there is no cause why I shal  
misbrayfe you: and therfore relying vpon the truthe of that  
whiche you haue sayd, I will tell my father you are wounded,  
and desirre rather to goe to your Chamber, then to the feare,  
who I knowe will mentine nothing. This ladt, she went to  
her father, and spakned with him, that he was content  
she shoulde haue the tendyng of him: whome she tooke to a  
Chamber, sufferinge none to come at him, but her Maide, whom

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She trusted, and well might trust for her fidelity. Afterwards Lucida came to Ornatus, to determine how she might come to see Alprinus, being most carefull of his health: and amongst many other speeches, they concluded that Ornatus the next morning should depart towards the Forest, to Alprinus, and that she by some meanes would come thither the next day after, if he would meet her, to give her directions where to find him: which he promised to doe. According to this agreement, Ornatus very early the next morning staires himself, and as Lucida had instructed him, in the like laine of her Father, who little suspecting he had bin any other then Alprinus, gave his consent: and so Ornatus in Alprinus: Ornatus summe departed the Loupe, bounde glad he was escaped soone, which he was sure to have indued, if it had binne any wised knowing that he had slaine Alprinus. 1501 210 11 1501 210 11

And being now alone by himselfe, hauing the mire boord to travell into, but never a friend to goe to, boord of seare, but not of care, he studed whither to direct his iourney: sometimes his conscience accusynge him of too much disloyall dealing towarde Lucida, in betraying her vertues, by simulation, tellling her Alprinus was living, when he knew it to the contrary. 1501 210 11

Then he contrarily thought, it was lawfull for him to resemble fouth her, to save his owne life, and thynkyng he had slaine Alprinus, he did it but in defensio[n] of his honour. 1501 210 11

Amongst all those, this cogitation seeme most to accou[n]t him of dishonor, that fortune and the destines had by that meane ordained him to escape. Whiles he rode on in those drepe meditations, he met with an amient Gentleman, who comming towards him, sayd: Discourteous Gentleman, who came thour by that Armor: and yet I need not aske the, for I know thou seist the worthy Gentleman Alprinus, which I beheld to my greate: Father (quoth Ornatus) is then dene behold the same, thou canst intellec I did it against my will, and in my alone defensio[n]: for whose death I am as heide in thyselfe, and would as willingly haue done any thing to preuent the same, as any man living. 1501 210 11

will:

## of ORNATUS and ARTESEA.

Will you then (say the Hermite) doe this for her, touching fate  
to come and speake with him who is th' miserable gods ware  
in my cell, and tell me what will happen.

I woulde to God, sayd Ornatus, thy words were true: for if  
he be living, it will revive my heart with joy, that is almost  
brought with care: desiring nothing more, then to see him.  
He is living, said the Hermite, and if thou will go, I will bring  
you to him presently.

Ornatus being come to the Cell, accoyningly found Alprinus  
very weake, by reason of his grievous wound, to whom  
Ornatus declaimed all that happened betwix him and Lucida:  
which added no little comfort to Alprinus heart, that he  
thought himselfe of sufficient strength to go and meet with  
her; and therefore told Ornatus, he would goe and meet with  
her: and withall, yelded him so many thanks, as if by his  
meanes his life had binne preserved.

In the meane time they continued in the old Hermites  
Cane: Alprinus in great comfort, and Ornatus in no lesse care,  
for the absence of his deare Artesea, breathing forth many a  
scalding sigh, and uttering many a lab and mournfull lamenta-  
tion: sometimes utterly despoyning of attayning her loue,  
and then againe, remembraunce her vertues, growing into  
some better confidence of her constancy. Yet most of all, fea-  
ring that Lenons loue to her, might syther by perswasion of  
his death, force effect of dignitie, or by other meanes win her  
to consent to him, especially for that she had no parents  
to gouerne her, nor he never a faithfull friend to counsaille  
her, as sayd of naged men.

The next day Alprinus and he went out to meet Lucida,  
whom they met at the entrance into the Forrest, and after  
many kind salutations past betwix the two Lovers, they al-  
together went back into the towne, to Lucidas fathers house,  
whom that moring he had deputed to a bauen, about busynesse  
of importancemey or collacion glasse of alreadymade.

Ornatus was much kindly used of them, remaining there  
till Alprinus had brought Lucida: but then he thought  
it high time for him to depart: And on a time finding Al-  
prinus

## The most pleasant Histroy. 10

prious alone, who had shewing sufficient tokens of his felinc, then he declared unto him the whole truth of his purpose, long to Artesia, requesting his helpe for his passage into Phrygia.

Alprinus with great regard attended the whole discourse, promising his uttermost assistance; which (quoth he) mons can effect so well as Leida, whose Father is a Merchant, and ferreteth so h shys into sundry provinces, who surely may pleasure you; which charge I will undertake, and cause her to deale so effectually with him, that you shall attaine your desire. Ormarus continued in gree hope somewhat abandoning his former despaire, wherof at this time we will leame, attending the time that some of the shys shoulde depart, to speake of Artesia, his carefull louer.

CHAP. XXVII. Artesia and Lenon. How Lenon caused Artesia by violence to bee carryed from Adelmeas House to the greene Fortress of the miseries she endured there. How she was refused from thence by Alprinus, and from him taken by Pyrates. And how Alprinus, accused by Lenon for her death, was impisened.



Whereafter that Artesia by Adelmeas carefull tendance had somewhat recovered her health, Lenon began to visite her againe, being vnable to endure the weare of burning bone, thinking her sickness had proceeded from leare of Floretus, not for want of Ormarus companye, shewing an affection, whome her in this sorte spake vnto her. Artesia, my heart is so firmlye intialled to your louing, and my affections so admiring your vertues, that I am constrained to alter my mind, and to tell you, why lost your beauty, vertues, and other most rare perfections, wherewith you are adorneed,

## of ORNATVS and ARTE SIA.

women, that I humblye sue to you for fauour, and prostrate my selfe your thralle, desiring to be enriched with those Jewels of inestimable pate: whiche haunting once attained, I shall thinke I haue more wealth in my possession, then all the world, besides my selfe, both containe. Your vnkind Uncle's cruelty, you haue haue soare, nor other misfortune; neither haue you any parentes to directe you in making your choice: then vouchsafe to accept my fute, and yeld content to my loue.

My Lord (replied Artesia) I thankē you for your good will, but I know not how to accept of your loue, being yet so farre from knowing what it is, that if I shoulde but dreame thereof, my hearte wold be out of quiet: besides, many cares continually attend the same, and my meane estate so farrre unswaythē thereof, with innumerable other discontents and care that I shoulde make my selfe subiect vnto it, that I haue rather a thousand times remaine in the estate I am now in. Therefore, I intreat you to lette your loue elsewhere, more agreeable to your estate and fancy: for I shall thinkē my selfe most seztunate, if I never fall into that labozinth of disquietes; but will, during my life, labour to keepe my selfe free from loues bands. Lenon wold not take this for an answer: but with many other speeches, continued his suit, whiche Artesia still put out of hope: that he departed for that time exceeding discontented, leauing her no lese disquieted in thoughts, how to auoide her loue.

In this sort did he dayly visite her, still growing moe importunate: amongst many other, this conference passe betwixt them: Artesia, quoth he, how long shal I sue and be frustrated in my hopes, by your vnkindnesse? Is your heart harboured against me? Or am I of so base conditions, that you cannot conceiue well of me? Or is it possible you beare so hatefull a conceit of loue as you make shew for? then may I accite thine eyes, that haue betrayed my fenses, in making them your thralle: then may I thinke my woe began, when I first began to loue. O Artesia, be not so cruell, as to punish me with this disdaine.

## The most Pleasant History, 10

My Lord (replied she) I seeke not your disquiet: for at the first motion I told you my minde, which shall never alter; neyther is my heart hardened against you, more then others, for I am determined not to loue: then seeing you for my intent, it were a point of wisdome in you to shake off this sond and foolish loue, which is but a toy, and an idle fancy, that is hyed by vanity: and doe not feare to make loue grow without a roote, for in my heart it shall never take roote, but rather when it is roote, I will pull out heart and all, but I will root it out. When (quoth he) you are led by obstinacy, and not by reason: for that you are subiect to loue, you cannot deny: then why not me before another: considering my loue is more fauorit, then any other: And I being most warthy, why shoulde I not be first accepted? Artesia was weary of his speeches, having her constant thoughts bent only on Ornatus: therefore to ridde her from him, she sayd. It is in vaine to use many words, neyther am I like to those, that will at the first see me coy, but afterwards yeld: but I desire you to be satisfied with that which I haue already sayd, that I cannot loue.

Faire Damosell, how can I be satisfied with that unreasonable answer, when my life dependeth on your consent: which your devall will finish: Then give me leue to say, I cannot be so satisfied; but being extremely refusid, I must grove perforce to be as unreasonable in my requests. Consider you not what dignity I might aduance you to, by making you my wife: consider you not the pleasures, ioyes, and abundance of all contentes you might enjoy with me: and how faithfully I loue you, and with what humilitie I seeke your loue: and yet notwithstanding, you remaine obdurate: By power is great, that whereas I lie, I might command, and by authority compell you to consent: then he not so ouerconceited, as so obstinately to reject your good, and thinke, that if my loue were not constant, I might ple extremes, which would haue alter your mind.

Suppose (replied Artesia) I were so peccish as you terme me, yet being borne free, I am not to be made bound by constraint:

## of ORNATUS and ARTESEA.

straint: and were you the greatest King in the world, you could not rule the heart, though you might by iniustice punish the body: for it is not Kingdome's wealth, nor cruelty, can turne hatred to loue, but it may soone turne loue into hatred. But by your speeches I may partly knowe your thought, and the lips utter what the heart intendeth: doe with me what you will, I cannot loue: neyther will I loue you, were you Monarch of all the world.

Lenon was so much grieved and vexed at her speeches, that he was ready to teare his Hayre, his Lenes extremity making him rather mad then sober, that presently he departed, saying no more but this: farewell hard-hearted Artesea.

She was glad he was gone, presently telling Adelena all that had past bewirt them, and how peremptorily he had answered his importunate suite: telling Adelena that since Ornatus was for her sake banished, she would never loue any but him, and preserue her life in hope to see him againe, but the first knowledge of his death, should be the latest wate of her life: both he and Adelena thinking that Lenon would never returne to prosecute his loue. But he being come to the Palace, betook himselfe to his Chamber, raging more like a Mad-man, then a passionate Lauer: sometimes swearing, cursing, and flaming, yelking so much to that mad fancy, that in the end he bowed to obtaine Arteseaes loue, though he had hazard his life, hono[r], and good name: that raging in this sort up and downe his Chamber, he espied an old Gentlewoman, named Flera going by his Window, whom he called unto him, and thus sayd: Flera, because I haue assured confidence in thy fidelite, and purpose to reward thee liberally, I crave thy counsell, and with it thy consent, to be faithfull in concealing my secrets, and diligent in doing my command: The old Hag making an euill fashioneid ioyne curtesie, sayd: My deare sonne Lenon, be it to doe yow god, I will hazard my life, and rather be borne into a thousand pieces, then reueale what you shall vouchsafe to tell me: Then (quoth he) counsell me which way I shoulde begin to  
win.

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win a faire Damosell lone. Marry my Lord ( quoth he )  
gives her knowlidge thereof, and then with faire speeches wiss  
her : if that will not preuaile, giv her Gold, and therke is no  
doubt, but that sage Wayt will catch her.

So, no ( quoth he ) these are of no force : I have made my  
lone knowlge to her, by humble suites, submisse behauours,  
and by all kinde of courteous meanes intreated her content ;  
yet for all that, she remaineth obstinate : she is rich, and therke  
sozo Gold with her is of no force ; she is faire, becomming, noble,  
and challeged then what Engleis haue thou to odermine that  
Challegge.

Deame enough ( quoth she ) perhaunce the is ruled by  
others counsaile, which may preuaile more then my selfe :  
but myght I haue accesse unto her, I wold not doubt to  
alter her minde : for being faire, young, and riche, we cannot  
chuse but delight to be piayled, subiect to loue, and therfore  
yeild to desir.

Well then thinke ( quoth he ) then couldest win her wert  
therke amysse : I warrant you ( quoth she ) I wold doe it.  
When shal thou haue her louper : so long shal haue to myrron  
at my fathers Caille in the greene Forest, wher to marris shal  
by night this Damosell that wile, whose name is Artesis, daugh  
ter to Arbasus lately dead : sic her hidly, let her want no  
thynge : mabye nat thang wife knowle, that thou knowle  
me, nor that the Caille belongeth to my father : nor speake  
not of loue, in answere : sic her in this lea, untill I speake  
with thee, for thou onely shal haue her trysty. Flera being  
gone about her busynesse, hee found out two of his trystyest  
servaunts, to whome he imparced both his minde and in  
tent : willing them the next morning with speed to goe to  
Adellenes house, and carri her unto the greene Forest,  
in the greene Forest, wher they shal find Flera : in whiche  
cyllow they shal comune Artesis : and then elles shal  
remaine there, to provide all thinges necessary, untill his com  
ming.

Early the next morning, the Servaunts rode to Adellenes  
house,

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

house, whereinto they boldly entred, and comming to Artesia, first spake her faire, but afterwards told her she must go with them, if not willingly, by constraint. Artesia then begann to burst into teares, weeping and lamenting exceedingly, upon her knes intreating them, not to offer by violence to carry her from thence, but if they would needs, that they would take Adellena with them; but all was in vaine, so they constrainted her to mount up behind one of them, and away they rode in great haste. This heavy parting was so suddaine, that Artesia could set her Adellena abut but with teares; nor Adellena speake a word for griefe, their sences being so farre conuerted with care, that their hearts were ready to burst therewith. Artesia thought it was Lenons doing, and therfore sorrowed the more, not that he used her unkindly, but that he loved her: not fearing his cruelty, but his lust: not regarding what cruelty he could use by hatred, but fearing his loue would make him leake her dishonour. Being come to the fortresse, and committed to the custody of Elera, the old woman began to speake her faire, and use her kindly, yet her very words and countenance bewraying her guilty conscience; so lotham Artesia would not speake a word, lest thereby shes shold give her occasion to gape: yet shes brought unto her, but she refused to take thereof; and when she came to her chamber, she lay on the Kynches, refusing the Bed, tormenting her heart with care, bearing her head with thoughts, and busying her sences, remeditating so what issue this vslage would soote: sometimes calling on Ornatvs name for comfort; sometimes accusing Lenon of barbarous cruelty, and cursing her crooked Destinyes: uttering such plaints as woulde haue turned Tyrants to ruth: weeping, her eyes dry, and her Garments wet, tearing her haire, and tormenting every one of her sences with vexation, refusing sleepe, rest, ease, or quietnes, so that she did alia quod emolens amillit, & alia fletit. The next day Lenon caueth her; asking Elera how she fared; who tolde him, that she would not speake, but for sleepe, but fared like one mad and sencelesse. But lecher did her enough shre, and you shall heare this wylde done the next day, the extreme

will have my mind of the; then pull she out a knife, and rapping hold on her, quoth she, that unlesse she would promisse to her Lenon kindly when he next came, she would cut her throat: which drave Artegia into shat feare, that she began taunt her, and speake faire, promising to condiscend to any thing that agreed to her Honour. Stand not upon those nice termes with me (quoth Flora) but here I weare to yeld to loue him: for so thou mayst delay him, and frustrate his hopefull expecation; whom thou art not worthy to touch, much less to beare such a presuming mind as thou daest, in scorne of his loue. Therefore yeld to that which I request, or stand to my mercy. Canst thou better the lone better, then on so honourable a Prince? Canst thou attaine more dignitie, reape more content, oþeroy more quiet iþþany, then with him? Then doe not deny me, for I purpose not to be denye.

Artegia trembling for feare, made this answere onely to satisfie her: I am contented to be ruled by Lenon whose mea-ning I know is honourable. Wherefore I wylle not offer me this outrage, but suffer me to liue in quiet until his com-ning. If this will not satisfie you, then doe the wost you can: for death is more welcome to me, then life in these Ex-tremities. well quoth she, I will syr you: but if you daily, beware what will ensue: for I am resolued what to doe. Arte-gia was glad she had satisfied her, though it were with bitter-ring words which she never intended to perorne.

Adellena seeing how sudainly Artegia was taken from her, cauled one of her seruantes privily to follow them to the greene Gastrasse: who returning, tolde her what he had done. Then Adellena began to stude how to release her sonne thence; and with all halfe rade to Alianus house: soher being arrived, she declared all that she knew an concerning Ornatus: and how Lenon had carried Artegia by violence into the greene Gastrasse. Alianus being glad to heare that Ornatus was aliuie, promised to redeem Artegia from Lenons custodie. And that to effect, the next Evening caused his men to mount themselves: and himselfe, with some of them, disguised from being knowne, came to the greene

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grave Fortress, and one of them knocking while the other hid themselves, the servants little suspecting any such ambush or intent, opened the Gates, when presently they entered in, and soys, found out Artesia, whom Allinus told who hee was, and to what intent he came. Artesia was glad thereof, and willingly yielded to goe with him: but the old Woman made such an out cry that all the place rung therof. One of Allinus servants saying he wouldest be pacified, drew his Sword, and thrust it through her body: and so with a yelling cry, shee gaue vp the Ghost. Then presently Allinus departed with her, intending to carry her to his owne House, to keepe her there unknowne, buttill he could heare of Ornatus. And remembraunce that the two Servants were fled, and wouldest no doubt certifie Lenon what was done, wouldest not goe backe the same way he camis, though the readiest, for then he thought he shouldest meet them: but went a more secret way, thinking by that meane to passe unscorne: and entring into the plaines where Cattell fed, Allinus espied a companye contyning towards them, whom he presently suspected to be Lenon, which in reason he could not thinke, but that saue perswaded him thereto: The companye likewise espying them ( who were certayne Robautes, that were wondred from their Shippes, to steale Cattell ), wondred what they shouldest bee, that were so late abroad: and being ready to any mischiese, set upon Allinus and his companye: who thinking it had bene Lenon, wouldest by no meanes yeld, nor speake, fearing he shouldest discry them, but resisted the Robautes: who being used to many such meetings, soone fletchynge of Allinus Servantes, and had givene himselfe many grievous wounds, enforced him to yeld: wher taking from him all that was good, and constrainynge Artesia to goe with them, hasted to their Shippes: when hauing conueyed her shipp, to prevent the worst, hysed sayle, and launched into the Deope. And so did Allinus and Artesia.

When Allinus left in most miserable estate, with all speede hastynge to his house, Lenons Servantes likewise were by that time it was midnight gotten to the Wallace, and callled their Lord out of his Bed, to certifie him what was hap-

poned: who presently mounted by his selfe, and with a nimble company rode to the Foytresse; and finding, thato Fier  
Haine, was all alighted. Then began he to薄ke who shold  
doe that ded, and what they shoulde doe that had castayned Artesia: by this time it was day-light, and Lenon fell in  
extreeding vexation to be dispossess of his beautefull loue; yet  
he comandured his men to poll by compaines feuerall boates,  
if it were possible, to finde thos that had done that ded,  
whylest he himselfe remayned there, bewayling that misfor-  
tune. His seruants had not rode farre, but (by the lighc of  
the day, which discouereth things done in darknesse) they  
found Allinus two seruants, whose dead boates they carried  
backe to the Foytresse. Lenon seeing them, presentignured  
himselfe, that Allinus was a party in this action, and that he  
had taken away Artesia, to sake her death. To prevent  
whiche mischefe, (as he thought then or never to be done) he  
presently rode home to the Court, and humbly upon his knes  
intreated his Father to graunt him Licence with a sufficient  
power to rescue Artesia from Allinus, who intened to mur-  
ther her: declaring, how he himselfe found her in Adellenaes  
house, and how that he had placed her in the grene Foytresse,  
to defend her from Allinus and others cruelty, being lost Fra-  
therlasse; and how that right Allinus had taken her from  
chance by treason, and intened no lesse then her ruine.  
The King hearing his Sonnes speches, graunted his re-  
quest: and he selfe, with a company of 1000 men, rode to the Foytresse.

Then presently divers, to the number of fiftie hundred  
men, with as much speede as could possibly be, armed them-  
selves, and in halle with Lenon went to Allinus Castle,  
into whiche they hastedly, and unawares to any wytting,  
entered. Lenon presentely layd his hands on Allinus, whom he  
found soze wounded yaking him for Artesia, whom the  
King some of his seruants had before broughte alighted  
had done, presentely wittin the truth of ally body within his loue,  
and how Artesia was released from him, but by whom he  
knew not, and how at that time two of his seruants were  
slaine, and had his souldieres set to the galleys to the right and  
left.

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Lenon giving no credit to his speeches, never left till he had searched the whole Castle throughout: but not finding her, accused Allinus that he had murdered her, commanding his men to bind him and carry him as a Traitor to the Court. Who being come before the King, confess the truth as before he had done, utterly denying, that he never sought Arteseaes death, but her safety: But yet notwithstanding, the King was so over-taxed by Lenons accusations and persuasions, that he especially bade him to prison his Goods and Lands were seized upon as a Traitor, his Lady wife turned out of doors in poore array, and all cruelty and outrage committed against his Servants and Ministers, and commandement given, that none should succour the man.

Allinus being in prison laden with wrongs and hardnes, yet envied that Affilon patiently: but hearing of his Ladys calamity, and how she was unjustly constrained to beg, that all her life long had beene tenderly brought up, thought choyce sorrowes wold stonke her to a mend, and entred into many bitter lamentations for her and his owne misfortune, which were too tedious to recite. His servants were constrained to disguise themselves, and travell into further places of the Country, to live unknowne; otherwise, none wold have entertained them. His Lady was compelled to take up a minnowesse of heres, that lived in the Countrey: of whom he was entertained, and there lived a poore life, farre differing from her former life; which she took most painfullgouled against affilon, as shewing him to be a knave. And this was Allinus house defaced, his Goods and Lands sold, and his selfe impudentlye, his wife in poore estate, his Servants constrained to wander from place to place, ready often to perish for want of succour, and all his dignitie turned to nulite by yronely by Lenons malice: who had no ground for these accusations he spred against him, but onely of a vaine empote, and with franticke affection that over ruled his heart, which so much preuyaled with him, that he sought by all meanes he could, his death.

CHAP.

# The most pleasant History

10

of the best and fairest of them are put together. I  
will tell you that **CHAP. X.** he stayed with the  
King of Armenia, and so did he with the King of Armenia.  
Now Queenes gate shipping into Phrygia. How **Artesia** was  
set at liberty: and how the Pyratos call. Lets who should  
possesse **Artesia**.



Rnatus all this while remained in the  
Country of Detolia, with Alpinus, and  
Lucida in great griefe, for want of messes  
to depart into Phrygia, to see what was  
become of his deare loue Artesia: But  
being a long time frustrate, by reason  
none of the shippes that went at sea came  
home, he began to despaire, thinking that

Artesia supposing him to be dead, by reason of his long ab-  
sence, would now marre Lenon: with griefe, and many o-  
ther doubtfull thoughts: opprest his heart with such passion,  
that he began to ware sickes, and afterwards fell into a ry-  
eading feuer, whiche held him for the space of thre moneths  
in great extremity: whiche surely had abridged his dayes, had  
he not beene most carefull nourished by Lucida, who had alwaies  
peciall care of his good: During this time of his sicknesse, certaine shippes of  
Phrygia came on the Coast of Detolia, some shippes  
shires distant from the walnes: where Alpinus dwelt, of  
which he had intelligence by certaine factors belonging to  
Lucidaes father: which withoute varuing his spous with  
Joy, before departing with certaine shippes into this lande, he had  
covered his former health, with such greatly reuived Alpinus and  
Lucida, whose hearts were linked together in bands of inse-  
parable friendship: who likewise deale so effectually for  
him, that they obtained warrantes for his passage, and furnished  
him with all kind of necessaries and sufficient shippes to obtaine  
all his charges.

Lucida likewise intreating her father to agree with the Chris-  
tian Merchants for his convoy, for that himselfe would not be  
alone,

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known, disguising himself into the habit of a pilgrim, which kind of people might without disturbance passe unexamined, and without molestation. And the time of his departure being come, he to be his leane of Lucida: Who tolde his departure with such exceeding sorrow, that the abundance of her flowing teares stopt the passage of her speach. Alprinus likewise with many doulesies bade him farewel, and wished his prosperous safetie. Who departed he the confines of Nacolia, where he found so short a space so well beloued, and so kindly used, that had not his loue to Artesia, and hope to find her in safety, constrained him, he could haue beene contented to haue spent the forme of his life in that place.

When Marchants of Parys had not sayled many dayes, but they arrived in a somme tyme vix miles distant from the Court, whether Ornatus determined to travell; and having taken his leane of the Marchants, and payd them their due, furnished with all things fit for his Disguise, he tooke his journey, and the first nighte lodged at a village neare adiourning to his fathers Caſtelle the Cittome of whiche place he well knew before, and therefore framed his behaviour according. And being set at Supper amangſt such queſte as lodged in that house with him, the Hoast, named Mylo, subdaintly sighted whiche of them noting, demanded, what inward grefe had him thereto? Marry Sir (quoyng he) if you haue not already heare the newes, I will tell you so much as I know, which I woulde I had nevere knowne. Within ſew dayes there dwelt an ancient Knight hereby, named Allinus, exceedingly well beloued of all men, who is lately faine into great misery, the occaſion wherof is this: then did he declare the manner of all that had happened to Allinus, how Artesia was taken from him, but by whom no man knew, himſelfe in prison, his goods confiscated, and his wife and daughter ſurnyng out of doxes, with command, that none should ſuccour them.

Ornatus heart was ſo pinc'd with this newes, that he was ready to fall vnder the Table: which old Mylo and the rest noted, perceiving ſuch a change of countenance in him, that

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they all deemed him to be exceedingly sicke: but he fearing to discouer himselfe, told them, it was but an ordinary course with him to be so troubled.

But being vnable to shittigate that passion, he rose from the Table, and gaue to his Chamber: where being alone, he began to meditate the depth of these mischances, imputing the originall thereof to proceed from himselfe; that he entred into these bitter plaints: My misfutures are without compare, and I mo more miserable then any man living: By my e-  
uill Destinyes, Artesia was first left in misery, afterwards imprisoned, and now surprised, by those that will intend her ruine, to dishonour; my Father imputing my Mother banished, and all his Lands, money, seruants and friends, taken from him, and he subiect to his enemies, that is merci-  
leesse, cruel, deceitfull, and malicious.

Only by my folly, are these mischances befallen: Can there be any moe wretched then my selfe: But not my Fa-  
ther cause to frowne, that he had neuer begatton me, and my  
Mother, that she had never borne me: Hath not Artesia cause  
to accuse me, hate me, and forsake me, when for my sake, by  
my folly and want of wisedome, she is broughte to so many  
miseries?

What shall I doe? What remedy shall I take, when all  
things is past recure? Whom may I blamie but my selfe: Is  
there any that is interessed in the cause of these woes, but my  
selfe? Lenon, Lenon, as well as myselfe, hath puruied these  
evills: his affection to Artesia, hath caused my banishment,  
my Parents woe, and her losse. If I travell in her search, and  
leave my Father in prison, the one would be in vaine, when  
I know not whether she is commayed, and the other dan-  
gerous to his safety: for Lenon, no doubt, of malice will sake  
his death.

In these and such like plaints he spent most part of that  
night.

Early the next morning, comming out of his Chamber,  
he heard a great tumult in that village: the occasion where-  
of, was this. Such as were Tenants and friends to Allinus,  
bearing

## of ORNATVS and ARTESSIA.

hearing of his vrantz imprisonment, and with what cruelty Lenon sought his ouerthrow, assembled themselves together, with purpose to intreat the King for his release ; that in the end there was thre hundred of them assembled. The common people, such as were idle persons, and ready to any attempt, misconceiving their intent, and bearing a minde desirous of liberty, which they thought they were restrained from, by certayne strict Lawes the King had made, gathered unto them, that contrary to their expectation, there was a multitude: the intent of whose assembly being demanded, they answered, that they meant to redeme Allinus : Among whom, Ornatus in his disguise, thrust himselfe, vsing many forcible persuasions to vige them forwards to that attempt ; that they were ready to runne confusedly to the Court, not regarding danger, nor the displeasure of the King.

One of Allinus friends, named Thrasus, standing vp amongst the rest, craved audience ; to whom they all listened, whilest he sayd :

I perceiue your intent is to release Allinus, wherein you shall shew your loue to him, and doe a deed worthy to be eternized, for that he hath not at all deserved to haue such iniuste ministred vnto him: therefore be wise in this attempt, and first know, against whom you beare armes ; that is, a: gainst your lawfull King, who may punish this fact with death, for that we vndertake to breake those Lawes which he hath ordyned.

But follow my counsell, and I will set you downe a course whereby you shall attaine your desire, and be vold of any such danger, which is this : First, let vs all repayze to the Court, and humbly intreat the King for his release ; if he will not grant that, then, that he would haue his cause tryed by the rest of the Peeres of the Land : which if he also deny, then may we with god cause venture our lives in his rescue. The multitude hearing Thrasus, in signe of consent, all cryed, Thrasus, Thrasus, shall be our Captaine.

Then presently every one with such furniture as they had, hasted to the Court, and comming together, would not seeme to

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enter by force, but with a full consent yielded to Thrasus directions. Who desired one of the Guard to certify his Ma-  
tchell, that there were a number of his Subjects gathered to-  
gether, with no intent of evill, but onely humbly to crave a  
boone at his Highnesse hand. The King being certifiid hereof,  
was much troubled in his mind, what the thing should be they  
would demand; and being perswaded by Lenon, would not  
himself come out, but send one of his Knights to demand what  
was their request. Thrasus declared unto him the cause of their  
comming, and what they demanded. ~~which~~ which when the King  
understood, being exceedingly enraged at their boldnesse,  
bad the Knight make them this answere: That he was not by  
his Subjects to be controlled, and therefore demed to per-  
forme the least of their demand: commaunding them pre-  
sently to depart every man to their severall places, lest he pu-  
nished their presumption with death. The Messenger had  
not scarcs ended his wordes, but presently the unruly Multitu-  
dine began to rush in at the Court gates, some carelessly ran-  
nating whatsoeuer came next hand, some breaking downe  
Windows, some assayling such as resisted them, and every  
one bent to doe mischiefe. The King fearing the peoples bas-  
ruly Rebellion, would turne to some greater mischiefe, then  
could suddenly be presented, and might also endanger his  
person, not knowing who had instigated them thereto, with  
the Maene and Lenon fled. ~~which~~ which when Thrasus knew,  
calling to the Multitude, he willed them not in any wise to  
destroy the Kings house, nor attempt any thing more to dis-  
please his Maiestie, for that the King was departed, and he had  
Allinus at liberty. But notwithstanding, some bent onely to  
trich themselves, spoyled the Kings Treasure, and utterly  
defaced the House: by which time the night dyed both high and e-  
very one beg in to withdraw themselves. Allinus seeing what  
exceeding mischiefe this attempt had bled, whitch was done  
contrary to his thought, and without his consent, yet thought  
it best not to trust to the Kings mercy, though he were never  
fainnoient: for notwithstanding that he would suppose it  
was done by his procurement; therefore (after Thrasus had  
willed

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withe the lonely multitude to depart as secretly as they could, everyone to his house, to prevent further danger, and save their lives, by keeping themselves unknowne of her and Tirafus that night without delay disguised themselves, and fled towards the Coast, to get shipping for Armenia, whither they intended to travell.

Ornatus was by, and beheld all this, glad of his fathers escape; not purposing at all to discover himselfe, until he had found Artesia; in whose search he meant presently to travell: but such confused thought his whether to wend his steps did so overwhelm his conceit; that he resolued like one metamorphosed, not knowing whether he shold seek her by Sea, or by Land: By Sea, he thought his labour shold be in vaine; and if he shold goe to find her by Land, he knew not whether she might be at Sea, and so convayed into Ispozaigne Countries. At last, rememb'ring he had heard Mylo say she was rescued from Allinus in the Desert wh're his Cattell fed, he determined to travell thither, though he had little hope to find her there. And being come thither, sometimes bewailing her absence, accusing his hard Fortune, breathing forth bitter sighes in remembrance of her losse, and renewing the remembrance of their loue, he spent some th're dayes in that place bitering those Plaints to the Trees and Birds, for otherwise there was none to heare him: Where for a while he will leave him.

The Pyrata having as is before said, taken Artesia from Allinus, and with her such wealth as they could finde about them; having withall furnished themselves with the spoyle of such Cattell as fesse in those places, returned so they shipp, and with haste hysped sayle. The night being now past, one that was chiese amongst the rest, named Loprates went doome to view Artesia, having as yet not seene her Beauty, by reason of the night: and now comming neare her, and beholding her Divine forme, his minde was presently caught with that sight, and he thought that none but himselfe shold enjoy her: whitch tooke such efficacie, that wheras before he intended nothing but her Dishonour, his

minde

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mind was now altered, & he intended to use her in most reverent and decent sorte, notwithstanding, his churtesse to win her a que. But beholding her faires, and proceeding lamentation, and hale impastenly she excusid the extremities she was deliuer unto, continuing solamente her with a most subtile gesture, friendly countenance, and gentle speech, he said; *Significans* faire lady, be not any thing misquieted, that you are made captiue to such as delight in spagle: for though our minds were otherwise bent to all truinitie, yet to your selfe shall no wrong be offered, for her hath your bearing imprented in my hearts: and whereas heretofore, without meray, both I and the rest of my comforts have not regarded the plaints distresse, nor what wrong we have offered eyther to lady *de Mandosell*: yet towards your selfe is my heart altered, and my meaning honestlie bent: that I allere you not only of quiet, whiche be doys of all wrong by vs to be done: but also, wherein soever I may worke your will, quiet, easie, or desire, I will most willingly imploy my vstermost inventours. Then I beseech you mitigate these cares, banish this sorrow, and dry up your teares: for you haue no cause of care, nor occasion of symerie: but rather to say, this vertue resteth in me, to allred rude and barbarous mordes to civill and vertuous behaviour. *ed.* and I shal looke to you

Artesia looking carnestly upon him, being endued with an exceeding wit, & thinking it best to speake him faire, that used her so kindly, sayd: Sir, I know not how to mitigate my grise, when it increaseth: by how much I be twyn of care, whiles I should grow altogether carelesse, being only subject to woe, and none so unforlunate as my selfe, having endured so many afflictions & crosses in all respects, that I know not how to assure my selfe of the least quiet. Then give me leaue to continue my endelesse plaints: I do not blaine me of impatience, nor think I suspect your speeches, or distrust your fidelity, if in some sort I continue my sorrowes: so I haue so long continued in them, as I can better aby with thethen much, for y to me is a stranger. Yet notwithstanding, my heart will harbour some quiet, if by your certes I may rest in security, & be sheltred from wrong. By this time they were arrived at their place of harbor, which

## of ORNATVS and ARTE SIA.

was betwixt y hollow of two Rocks, or rather rocky Blanckes, where they shipp safe fro weather, & so far under their shadowne, y it could not be seene: themselves conueryng such wealth as they fro time to time got, in hollow Canes, of great largenesse, where was all thinge necessary. And having fastned theyr shipp, the rest of Luprates felowes called hym up: who came, and brought Artesia into the Can, who beholning y same, was surprised with an exceeding discosert, of ever getting from thence.

Somis of the ruder sort liking Artesia, began their rude behaviour towards her; but Luprates stepping vnto them, uttered these speeches: My masters, thus long haue I liued your Captain in this place with care, respecting your godd so much as mine owne, and taking but an equall share with you of such Prizes as we haue taken, and rather the least. part; now onely in respect of my faith and fidelity, I request to haue this Dam-hell as my pay, the rest of the wealth take you: All thinge whiche you shall haue, and bute you for ever.

One of the ruder liking arses, desirous to haue her, and of a more ruder minde, disdaining that he alone shoulde haue her in possession, sayde: Captain, all whiche you say, we confesse to be truthe: neither hath our care been any way lesse then yours, therfore there is no reason why you shoulde clame any peculiari privalidge above any of vs: besides, you know, we made a Lawe & bound our felowes to perforne the same by Dath, which boas: That none shoulde possesse any thinge, without the generall consent of vs all: when we perforne those conditions, and let her belong to vs all, or to the chiesell of vs, and in following, neither of vs shall sustaine any wrong. Whiche you vs yre content about Artesia, we geue you no straunge to possesse her, altho we yher hold her any shoulde haue her but himselfe: that we were likely to wante vs and her: till at the last, we entreated to call her, and she felow Luprates shone, that was the moste woyng of that privalidge, for that he haue the moste vertuous prises, as this. Thus for a time this shifteing entred, also Artesia was by Luprates kindly used for mirthinge: in the end, their violence began to walshe, and they thought it high time to seek for more, that they determined to fetch in some, as before they had done.

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But then began Lupratus to take care in whose custody to leave Artesia; lest in his absence they shoulde doe her wrong. Amongst the rest, he chose out one whome he thought fittest, and to him he committed her: by whose meane, Artesia redid her selfe of disturbance, though not doys of exceeding rare, that continually tormented her; fearing never to see Ornatus againe, nay to bee released from that place of Wardage. A most gullible soule to keepe his quee and soule an digne delyng. So shortlye rayed, alwaies gullible, to shewe  
CHAP. XPI. and as I said the said  
How Ornatus found Artesia, and preserved her life and how  
she was againe taken from him by Lopus; and what after-  
wards befell. And as I said the said  
Vgrates and the rest being banished, came in  
the night into the cittie to stille the  
people, and by chance alighted in the place  
where Ornatus habited, shewing himselfe to  
him, by the sound of his instruments.  
Lupratus remembred what hee saw: and  
then (quoth he) a most miseriefull, dolente  
and sorrowfull world is Ornatus: but miserieous, dolorfull, ex-  
tremity, when (quoth he) they are not for their companye com-  
fited that then departed leauing him there. And as I said  
Ornatus when hee remembred the place where  
the bery same that had taken Artesia from Allians; whiche  
made him moste dolorfull and of exceeding miserie  
remembred that hee before was a man of compaine of that they  
Gatell were of too felice; hee spake then to his friends the  
Schemers that with all the helpe possible, hee mighte the more  
satisfie and satisfy the Damones; telling them what he  
had seene, whoe was the fayre and comely Queene, and  
as faire as faire, following them with a small companye  
themselves, leauing upon thenselves a companye of thenselves, and the rest  
considering their handes, flied to them whiche had stolyn  
all the haire they could get to their Damones.



Early

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Early the next morning, the inhabitants conveyed the prisoners to the Court, who being come before the King, confessed the manner of their life, and where they lived. When Lenon most secretly supposed, that they were the very same that had taken Artesea from Alimus; and demanding the same of them, they told him, that there was such a Damosell in their Town, and that shea told them her name was Artesea. Then Lenon without delay, strongly accompanied, rode to the same Haven, and there got shipping, by the Pzras directions, to finde out their fort. Ornatvs likewise, after he had rased the people, secretly followed the Pzras, unto the place where their ship lay, and amongst the rest, entered the same: who, by reason of their haste and exceeding fears, regarded him not; who thrust himself into the danger, only to see if Artesea were in their custody, notwithstanding his life might be in danger thereof: And the Pzras, by Lirprates directions, hasted to the fort, and brought hence Artesea into their ship, not daring to stay there, for that they knew some of their followers were taken, who in sight by compulsion were constrained to receive the place of theyr abode.

Ornatvs no sooner espied Artesea, but he knew her, and his heart leapt within him to joy to see that happy sight: but she durst not speake to her, nor durst lette his eyes to behold her, for sake of suspey, for that Lirprates markeled whos he came among them, demanding what he was, and what he made there: I am ( quoth he ) a poor Pilgrim, that against my will was by force of this company constrained to come thither, I am cleare yed, and comynge in this manner, Lirprates beholding he laye aside, made no farther question, but with hasty paynes from Phrygia, commanding Artesea into his Cabin, where many speeches to comfort her.

They had not talies many houres, but a contrary wind began to stirre, and the Heavens were darkened with thicke Clouds, and such a mighty Tempest arose, that the shipp was by violence driven backe, their maine shal brokent the shalwe where shew, and all in danger of destruction, had not the Land beene neare, for the shipp driven by violence of the sea, ranne ground,

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ground, and there split in sunder, and the pyrats with great hazard escaped drowning; none of them, nor Luprates, once regarding Artesia: but Ornatus seeing in what peril this was, caught hold on her, and getting on to a planke, being withall somewhat skilfull to swim, with much adoe gat on to the firme land, and preserved her from a miserable death by drowning.

He was no sooner past danger, but Luprates would have taken her from him: but Ornatus seeing none but himselfe there, and all the rest fled for feare, told him, since he had forsaken her in extremity, he was not worthy of her; and therefore shold not have her. Willaine (quoth Luprates) yield her me with quiet, or else the lise shall not detain her. with that, Ornatus caught hold on a Wood, which he cleft in sunder with his scote, and with the same gaue Luprates so lypathie and deadly a wound, that the braines fell about the place, and he dyed. By this time the storme was quite over past, and Ornatus seeing his deare Love very weake, with feare and distempature, by the armied her unto a mossie Bank, where the Sunnes bright beame had full force to dry her garments, dropping with wet.

Artesia seeing hym tenderly this stranger regarded her, and with what paine he had preserved her, when she was of all but hym forsaken, being willing to shew that she was gratesfull, said: Sir, the paines you have taken, and friendship you have shoume to me, deserve more thankes, and recompence, then I am able to give: and therefore I desire you to thinke, that if I were able, I would requite the same: but my misfortunes are so exceeding, that they withhold me from doing that I would; onely thanks is the small requitall I can yield, in token of a gratesfull minde, being by your meanes at more quiet, then many dayes I have bene, though more disquieted then you would judge: but now I rely vpon your vertues, with hope thereby to be preserved, and not driven to further misery.

Faire Lady (quoth Ornatus) my life shall be spent in your defence, neither will I part from you, vntill I have brought you to the place which you desire: requesting you to make no doubt

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doubt of my loyalty. I suppose your name is Artesia, because (quoth he) in my travells I have met a Gentleman of this country, named Ornatus, of whom I learned the truth of many of your misfortunes : who I assure you is in good health. O blessed newes (quoth he) then will I hope once againe to see my deare Ornatus, whose absence hath bene my only cause of woe.

She had scarce ended those words, but Ornatus espied a ship even then come alioye where theirs was cast away, & most of the men landed, which was the ship wherein Lenon was : who beheld the other ship cast away, and the storme being ceased, arriven there. From whom Ornatus knew not how to hide himselfe, and Artesia not so much as thinking Lenon had bin in it, but that it was some ship that likewise by the storme was driven to land there. Presently the men began to spread themselves every way, and some of them soone espied Artesia, giving Lenon knowledge thereof ; who immediately came towards her, most kindly saluting her : but she being exceedingly dismayed with his sight, whom she most mortally hated, so verie griefe, burst into teares, that in abundance gush'd from her eyes.

Lenon maruell'd therat, (and little thinking how much she hated him, and how unwelcome he was) rather expecting thanks for his paines, then reprove, said : My deare Artesia, be not now disconsol'd, since there is no further cause of care ; I have most diligently laboured to release you from griefe, ever since Allinus by treason conneyed you from my Custody, taking your absence in great heauiness, so that it pinched my heart to thinke you shold fall into such distresse : but now that all those misfortunes are past, I beseech you goe with me to the Court, where I will labour to procure your content. Artesia's heart was vered to heare his speeches, that she made him this answer :

Most discourseous Lenon, none but your selfe is cause of my woe, whose sight more tormenteth me, then all the afflictions I ever endured. Allinus carried me indeed from the green Foresse, not by treason, but to shelter me from dishonour, which

you did intend, else would you not have suffered me to end  
 dace such misery as I did by my helth keper. Thinke you  
 I haue cause either to thinke you intend my god, or take my  
 comfort by your presence, when you surely disquiet me, not suf-  
 fering me to enjoy my liberty, but woulde perforce contraine  
 me to that I cannot like. Had you left me in Adellenes  
 house, then had I not falle into such misery, as since that I  
 haue iuined, no: Allius so; his verrie haue benn brought  
 to power: that being before my proffessed enemy, seeing my  
 misery, it so mollified his heart, that he hath pitied me, and  
 sought my liberty, and only by cruelty, not by iustice, haue you  
 sought his ouerthow. Then I beseech you leau me here, soz  
 I had rather endure the hazard of my misfortune, then live  
 to be tormented with your impoerunacy. Lenon was so amai-  
 zed to heare her vnykyn reply, little thinkinghs had binne so  
 much out of her fandur, that he could not tell what to say;  
 sometimes thinking to leau her there, and vterly to forlake  
 her: but that thought was stome overcome, by his affection o:z  
 violent stong of desire, to enjoy her loue, that vncagaine he  
 sayd, With Artesia do you regard my god will no more, then  
 for my paines to yeld me rebukes, and soz my loue, dis-  
 daine: That I caused you to bee brought from Adellenes  
 house, was, so that being there, you were subiect to many  
 misfortunes. And if I impsoned Allius, it was soz that I  
 supposed him your enemy, and feared he woulde haue done you  
 wraig: so that whatsoeuer I did with intent of god, you re-  
 pay me with dislike, and connect all my doings to the worst  
 meaning; wherein you shew your selfe so cruell, that will not  
 yeld me the leall fadoz soz my constant loue. O Artesia be not  
 so hard-hearted. Artesia, notwithstanding many faires promis-  
 ses, vobes, and proueriations he made, would not yeld to goe  
 with him, but desired rather that he woulde leau her there.  
 Lenon told her, though not soz his sake, yet for her safety, it  
 were best for her to goe: whiche sayd, he comandred his ser-  
 vants to place her in a litter. whiche when they saw the  
 mynstridnes soz, he called to Ornatius, saying: Good Palmer  
 goe along with me, that soz the kindnesse you haue showme

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in preferring my life, I may yeld you some recompence. And (quoth she) to Lenon. I request nothing of you for my selfe, but for this strange Pilgrim, who when by the storme shipp was cast away, I ready to perish, caught me out of the water, and preserved my life ; and doe not for his god will to me, use him as you did my deare Sylvian, whom you banished, so that he preserved my life from my wrckind Trickle : with that, she wept exceedingly. Then Lenon asked Ornatus what he was. I am (quoth he) as you see, a Pilgrim, that was forced to come aboard the Pyrateship, and (amongst the rest) was ready to perish, but that by the Divine Providence I was ordained to preserve that vertuous Damoels life. For that deed, quoth Lenon, I will reward you most kindly : therefore goe along with us. When they all departed to the Court.

Lenon presently caused Artesia to be lodged in a most sumptuous place in the Court, appointing divers Damoels to attend her, thinking by those means to win her to consent to loue him, but all proved vaine, his care was cast away, his hope to little effect, and his kindnesse unregarded. For Artesia was so constant to Ornatus, that she hated Lenon : for her heart was wholly employed to wish his god, and Lenons ill : for she determined never to loue him, though she was assured of Ornatus death : That she spent her time in continual care & sadness, shewing no signe of joy, no shew of comfort, but even as one that regarded no rest, norooke felicity in any thing: that Lenon both admired the same, and laboured by many meanes to alter that humour : but the more he sought to please her, the more she was displeased, and more discontented at his kindnesse, then any thing else: In this sort shee continued many dayes, without the least shew of alteration.

Ornatus all this while remaining in the Court, making the cause of his stay, to receive Lenons promised reward, where as indeed he stayed to see what would become of Artesia, or by what meanes to get her from thence. To effect which, he saw no possible meanes, nor could in many dayes come to see Artesia ; which filled his heart with grieve : onely comforting himselfe, with remembryng her constant loualtie. And one day he

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ing by himselfe alone, he entred into these cogitations. Ornatus thou hast remained many dayes in this place, kept from thy lone & sought no means to set thy heart at rest, or her at liberty. Doest thou make no more account of her lone, then to attempt nothing to attaine the same? Or are thy spirits of no more courage, that they will doe nothing? thy wit so shallow, thou canst devise no stratageme: or thy minde so cowardly, thou darfst not reuenge the wrong. Lenon doth that? What though he be the Prince, and heire of this Land, is not both he and his father hated, ruling by usurpation, & with cruelty, not with justice, hath sought the downfall of thy House? Can Artesia thinke eyther valour or vertue to rest in that, when she shall knowe howe neare thou art her foe, but darfst not touch him? will she not esteem this a coward, & unworthy to enjoy her lone? nay, when she knoweth this, will she not alter her lone? Why shouldest thou not sake thy owne content, though it be with his discontent? Thou art every way as good as he by birth, though he nowe rule the Land. Hath not thy father sayd, That his father was but a Captaine in the last thinge dayes, and by Treason put his lawfull King to death, and so wan the Rule? Then Ornatus revives thy spirits, seeme not dismayed with any danger, feare not misfortune, seek to release thy Lone, and venture thy life therein: for living thus, thou shalt be depryued of her lone: Lenon will by force or faire meanees overcome her: and then mayst thou blame this delay. The King is now sick, and he being dead, Lenon must raigne, who then may doe what he list? Then take the advantage of the time, and doe not frustrate thy blessed hopes with slothfull delay.

Pantag ended this meditation, he then began to study how to perfoyme his will, wherein he found many contrarieties: but presently he beheld Lenon entring the Court, before whom he stood so opposite, that he could not chuse but note him, & withall remembred how earnestly Artesia had intreated him on the Pilgrims behalfe, whom he thought she esteemed: & there soe suddenly this cogitation arose in his fancy, to use him as an instrument to win her lone: that calling Ornatus unto him, he said: Pilgrim, I pray thee blame me not for forgetting to perfo

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my promise made to Artesea concerning this, which I have not neglected for want of good will, but by reason of thousands of cares that daily torment me, only pacified by her kindness: but if thou will undertake on my behalfe, to persuad her to yield to my last request, so that I think thou wouldest prevail with her above any, I will not only reward thy former kindness to the wife to her, but also for the paines herein, promote thee to high dignitie: therefore I pray this gaine consent to follow my counsell herein. Ornatus was willing to be employed in that busines, which fell out according to his hearts desire, and therfore made him this answer: My noble Lord, so that I perceine your intent is good, I will be ready to follow your directions, & do you any service I can: wherein I know not whether I shall prove fortunate, or no, but assuring you that I will deale both faithfully & effectually in that which I shall undertake. Leon was as glad as he, that he yielded to do that which he thought least to performe, and therfore presently gave command, that the Pilgrim only should have her in custody. Artesea marvelled that her keepers were changed, misdoubting some intent of hard usage: but seeing it was the Pilgrim, that now had her in custody, her heart was comforted.

CHAP. XII. Leon alwaies sat upon

How Ornatus had the custody of Artesea: how he discovered himselfe unto her. How Alinus and Thrasus arrived in Armenia, and got the King to send Embassadors into Phrygia.



Ornatus at his first comming found her sitting in the darkell corner of the Chamber, bewyting her misfortune with salt teares bedewing her purple cheker: her ornaments disorderly put on, and her golden tresses hanging carelessly downe, which added beautie to her sweete beautie, and though disordered, most comely: leaning her arme upon a Chayre, and her Cheeke lyes upon the backe of her hand.

when

she

When he beheld her sitting in this comfortable sort, his heart was ready to melt with remorse, and he breatheth forth so bitter a sigh, that he heard the same, whiche he perceiving, came towards her, with humble behaviour saying:

Holte vertuous Lady, pardon my presumption, in presuming thus unmanerly to interrupt your quiet; Lenon the Prince hath appointed me to be your attendant: therefore I beseech you (neswicheanding I am his sublisite) command me in a. my dutifull sorte, & I will most willinglye imploie my uttermost endeavours, to purchase your content. Arctelia rayling her selfe from the ground, sayd: Pilgrim, I thank you so; your kinde proffer, and am glad you are my keeper, so; two causes: one, that I trust your vertues will not suffer me to be fured; the other, for that I would heare out your discouer of my deare vertuous Oratius, whiche I was hindred from by Lenon's hinderanding me. Lade (quoth he) you shall be assured of the one, and heare more of the other, if first you will donchsafe, without of. feare, to heare my party, and suffer me to execute the charge. Denea fulli givene me, and I haue undertaken, with y what is right (quoth Arctelia) I will not be offendeg. Lenon hath made knowne to me his loue, and how long, & with what constancy it is grounded, commanding & intreating me in his behalfe to become an humble suitor unto you; he telleteth me, that will you vngently disdaine him, without cause, reason, or consideration, therfore, I hauebeare, both for that he is constant, a Prince and of greate vertuous gifts, yeld to his loue, or else satisfie me of the chescell reasons that with hold you from the same.

Pilgrim (quoth she) for that my minde perswadeth me, you in wilosome shall conceine of reason, and how be fouldre in concealing that whiche I shall disclose, I answeare now thus: First, somt Lenon did loue me (yet by his usage, I finde the contrary) I cannot sancte him, for that I already haue slighted my faith to another more worthy then him selfe, whiche is that vertuous and knyght Deneleman Oratius, who like were euallent in charleton: and therfore I shold dishonoure my name, vnglas my faith, and reape perpetuall infamy, if I shoud shew my selfe so incollant. These I thinke are reasons

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of true loyalty, grounded upon vertuous loue: then how happy is he, by being enriched and possesst with such a loue: His reward is greater then his paine: his pleasure moxe then e-  
yer his sorrowe could be; his gaines a thousand times beyond  
his losse. why should I then conceale the truth of his safety  
from you: with that, he says; Behold Artesia, your Orna-  
tus: with that he discovered himselfe unto her, and she perfect-  
ly knew him, being almost amazed with that heauenly sight;  
when with a sweete behauour, they both imbraced each o-  
ther, intermingled their kisses with tears of ioy, that in a bur-  
dance distilled from their eyes: surfeiting so much in that sweet  
delight, that they were loth to part, but that feare to be espied,  
compelled them; taking such exceeding comfort in each o-  
thers presence, as is not to be exprest: withall doing many  
kindneses, usuall betwixt faithfull friends, to expresse their  
ioy: he sometimes imbracing her, and she againe with a sweet  
kissie welcoming him; being so many, so kind, and hearty, as  
would aske a skillfull description. At last, having somewhat re-  
creates themselves, and with subdueing ioy banishit some part  
of their care, they thought it time to shew him to procure their  
happynesse, leau the same night againe be crost by Lenon; who  
by that time expected to heare from him. Therefore  
Ornatus sayes: My most deare and kind Artesia, by whose loue  
my life is plesured, I am not able to expelle the ioy my  
heart conceineth by this fortunate meeting, being likewise as  
sory to think of the mistreatment you haue suffered by my care-  
lesse overlight, and how to get you from this place, and from  
Lenons affection, whom I know to be of such knawell dispu-  
tation, that he will leare no diligent meanees unattempted to  
hurt thee: but indead,

Therefore in this urgent extremite if you will be contented  
to aduaine me as your friend, and follow my directions, I will  
labour all that I can to get you from this place. My true friend  
Ornatus (tale Artesia) I haue dedicated my selfe to your dispu-  
tation, and haue my selfe all one fullie resolved in heart, to do  
and shew you that you haue suffered you should with your selfe, you doe  
to me, and soone never pleased you, cannot displeas me; for I

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am your selfe: therefore I commit all things to your wi-  
dome, and rest to be ruled, counselled, and ordered by you, in  
whatsoever you shall thinke convenient, and will doe any thing  
you shall counsell me vnto, both for our escape from hence, or  
otherwise: accounting my blisse yours, and yours mine; your  
care mine, and your quiet my content.

Lenons loue is most hatefull vnto me, and injury to you: then what meanes can you worke, to rid me of that, and re-  
uenge your owne wrong, perforeme, for my consent is ready to  
geld to any thing you shall thinke convenient.

I most humbly thanke you, said Ornatus, & first I thinke this  
is the best course, to procure my god liking with him, and to  
rid vs from hence, that at his next coming you shew a little  
more friendly countenance vnto him, then heretofore you have  
done, as shall best agree with your wisdom; and he perceiving  
that my service hath done more for him then ever he could at-  
tain, wil not only credit me, but also be ruled by me in any thing  
I shall counsell him vnto: which if you will performe, commit  
the rest to me. My deare Ornatus, at your request I wil do this,  
which otherwise I would never of my selfe yeld vnto; for that  
my loue to you, & hate to him, would not suffer me so much to  
dissemble: but I pray God deliuer me wel from forfights pow-  
er, that I may in quiete enjoy your sweet company. These spe-  
ches being ended, they parted with a swete kisse; he lighting &  
she foy gries sheding teares. Not long after, Lenon came  
to Ornatus, requesting to know whether he had preuailed any  
thing with Artesia in his behalfe. My Lard, quod he, I have be-  
sed many persuasions to her, which in soms sort have prepar-  
ed; but hereafter I do not doubt but by my persuasions to win  
her full consent, if you with wi-dome will be directed by me,  
and not with rashnesse marre all: therefore goe in vnto her,  
but not too rashly, and see if she be not altered. Lenon imbrac-  
ed him in his armes, saying: Thou bringest me tidings of ex-  
ceeding comfort, for which I will reward thee most bounti-  
fully. with that, he gaue him a Purse of Gold: which Or-  
natus tooke, thinking that shold bee a meanes to further  
him, and hinder the giner. Lenon entred Artesias Chamber,

## The most pleasant History,

using many kinde speeches, and submisste behauours, whom the bled moe kindly then ever she had before done; which both filled his heart with joy, and made him, according to the Pilgrims directions more carefull of his behauour, lest by a ny boldenesse he might offend her; that having past some small time with her, he departed.

Now was Ornatus studing how to release Artesia; to further whose intent, the occassion thus fell out: Allinus and Thrasus, as is before laid, gaue thipping for Armenia, and arrived there with safety; & it directing theye course to the Kings Wallace, wher Allinus was most honourably enterained, being somewhat ailes to the King, to whom he declared both the cause of his exile, and the injury done to him by Thiceon, King of Phrygia. Turbulus the Armenian King, comforstes him all that he could, and bad him withall request any thing at his hands he woulde graunt it him. Allinus alledging many things to percladre Turbulus to gaolotherets, requested him to send Embassadores into Phrygia, either to request performance of certaine Articles, or else to give him open deslance for warre. The Articles were these: That Allinus shoulde be restored in his lands, and the damage and losse he had suffered shoulde be repayed to the full; That his wife shoulde be recalled from banishment; and that he shoulde yeare by Artesia to Allinus, if she shoulde be in his calldoy: & that the K. and Lenon shoulde be sworne to performe all this. Turbulus was easly won, and therfore presently sent fourre of his noblemen as Embassadores, to request the performance of those condiccons: and no euen at that instant were lande in Phrygia, and newes therof brought to the Court. The King being himselfe somewhat sickly, sent Lenon to mete them, and give them entertainment; who was loth to go fro Artesias sight: but assuring himselfe of y pilgrims faith, committed her wholly to his custodie. Ornatus thought it now y fittest time to take to escape but he was hindred by other of Lenons servants, whom he had secretly appoynted, as ouerseers, to looke into the Pilgrims aym: that it was impossible for him to attempt any thing that day, but it must needs both be discovered, and prevented.

Ornatus

## of ORNATUS and ARTESEA.

Ornatus seeing himselfe disapporated of his purpose that way, made Artesea acquainted with what he intended, and how he was prevented, spending the time of Lenons absence continually in her company.

Lenon having met the Armenian Embassadours, brought them to the Court, where they were honourably entertained: and having declared there Embassage, Thenon the King told them, they shold receive answere within two dayes. Lenon hearing the Articles, counselled his Father not to yeld to performe any such Conditions, but rather to send Turbulus defiance. For (quoth he) your Maiestie is as absolutely a King of Phrigia, as he of Armenia: and then what dishonour were it unto you, to scope to his command, & shew your selfe as it were afraid of his threats: for to binde your selfe to this, were to become his subject: which would soone be published through the whole world, to your dishonor. The King being ouer-ruled by his persuasions, gaue the Embassadours this answere. That he meant not to performe the least of those Articles they demanded, nor feared theyr Kings threats of warre, for y he was able to deale with a mightier Foe then he: using many other words, and some of reproach; that the Armenians denouncing open Warre, according as they were commandes, departed.

### CHAP. X I I I.

How *Ornatus* staying too late in *Artesia*: chamber, was accused by *Lenon* seruants whom he slew. How *Allinus* with a band of *Armenians* landed in *Phrygia*: and how *Ornatus* was imprisoned.

 Haen knew, that the King of Armenia woulde performe his word, and therefore gaue Lenon charge to muster vp men throughout the whole Land; committing the chiefe charge of the Army, and ordering of these affaires, vnto him: who more hardy bold then wise, undertooke all: and within short space had gathered an exceeding great Army, and furnished certaine ships, to meet with the Armenians by sea: if it might be possible, to vanquish them before they shold land.

## The most Pleasant History,

These troubles filled the Commons hearts with gries, and theyr mouthes with murmurings: for they understanding, that the King of Armenia did offer warre to Phrygia, in y he, halfe of Allinus, that was generally beloved; there was few of those that were prest to those warres, but came unwillingly, and rather by constraint, being more readie to turne theyr sword points against Thava, then against Allinus.

Ornatus likewise hearing of these warres, by his wisedome found out the opinion of the multitude, and with what unwill-  
inglasse they came to the warres: which when he was in some sort assured of, he came to the Campe, and amongst all the rest of his Familiars, espyed Phylastes, who alwayes loued him most dearely; him he knew to be of a most faithfull and constant resolution, in performing his promise, and was by Lenon appoynted one of the chiefest Leaders. Ornatus finding him remote from the Campe, came to him, & after saluta-  
tion, said: Sir Phylastes, I am sent unto you by a dear friend of yours, named Ornatus, who trusteth so much in your vertues, that he is willing to put his life into your hands; which you shall hazard, in detayning him one smal sauz, which with safety you may grant: First therefore, I request but your promise for your warranty, & then I will declare what I haue in charge.

My friend (quoth Phylastes) thou tellest me newes of won-  
der, when thou sayest thou comnest from Ornatus, whom I  
feare is long since dead; but if thou knowest the contrary, and  
canst resolute me thereof, I promise and sweare to performe  
whatsoever thou shalt demand: for I am sure Ornatus know-  
eth that I loue him, noz maketh any doubt thereof; which if  
he doe, he intureth that loue and friendship that hath pass  
twene vs.

Then kinde sir (quoth he) that Ornatus is not dead, but  
in safety; and I am that Ornatus that notwithstanding my  
speach, make oo doubt of your loue.

Phylastes beholding his countenance, knew him well, and  
for ioy caught him in his armes: My deare friend Ornatus  
(quoth he) I am glad of your safety; and accursed be my soule,  
if I doe not any thing that you shall command.

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

I thanke you (quoth Ornatus.) To enter into the tedious discourse of my afflictions, would be tedious; but in few words I will tell you all. I loued Artesia long, but found no hope nor meanes to attayne my loue: which made me disguise my selfe into ~~W~~oman's apparell, naming my selfe Sylvian, and was sozfortunately entertained by Arbatus; whose death I found to be acted by Floretus: who falling into loue with me, told me, for my sake he would payson Artesia at the Lodge; whither he conueyed her. I fearing to haue her taken from me, and hauing wonne her loue, tol her his intent, & conueyed her to Adellenas house: then Floretus & Lenon came thither, demanding her of me; whom I told, I had paysoned her, according to his counsell: was stryngh, were brought before Thazon, who banished me into Natolia; from whence I came backe, and by god sorte haue the keeping of Artesia in this disguise: the manner I will tell you at more leisare. Now my deare friend Phylastes, my desire is, to change my place with you; you to haue the custody of Artesia, in my Palmers ~~W~~oman, and I to march into the Field in your Armo;: which if you graunt, you shall binde me unto you for ever.

Phylastes yelde<sup>d</sup> to fulfill his request: and so for that time they parted, appoynting to mete the next day.

Ornatus being come to Artesia, tol her where he had been, and what he intended; which made Artesia sad, misluying him from his purpose in this sort: My deare Loue, what need you venture your person in the dangers that are incident to warre? will you leaue me here in doubt, and not rather stay with me, to my comfort? There are enow besides, & so many in the Field, and Phylastes is able to execute his owne place. Then I beseech you, doe not leaue me in discomfor<sup>t</sup>: for how can I be void of care, when I shall thinke you are amongst so many enemies, ready to be slaughtered? My deare Loue, (quoth he) that which I will doe, shall be without any hazard at all, but shall procure both yours and mine owne content: Then I beseech you, remit this care for my safety; for I will preferre my selfe from danger, for your sake. Besides, Phylastes vertue is such, that you need not once so much as thinke amisse.

## The most pleasant History,

amise of him, who I know would venture his life for my sake. Besides, my honour wrgeth me, revenge of iniuries done to your selfe and me, and my fathers safety, are reasons sufficient to perswade your consent: besides many other causes, moze forcible then these, too tedious to recite. Then I beseech you deny me not: for when it shall be knowne, that my father was in armour in the field, and I in this place not regarding to ayde him, it will turne to my great dishonour, & those which before did esteeme well of me, will then begin to hate me: then let not your doubt of a true love to me hinder my determination, for on y mine honor, your safety, & my father a life dependeth.

Artesia seeing she could by no meanes dissuade him, thought not to let him depart so suddenly; but clasping her tender armes about his necke, a thousand times kiss his lips, whiche with her abundant of tears she bedewed his manly cheecks. Ornatus tooke great sorrow at her heauiness, and delight in her inbribings, that the contrarieties of his concerte were exceeding pleasure it selfe seeming more pleasant intermingled with care, and care a pleasure, to be endued with such delight. Artesia was loth to let Ornatus depart that night, for that she minded he shold be in danger the next day; and he also unwilling to leave her in sorrow: she on the one side solacing her selfe in his company, he by her flattery making him forget to be part; that before they were reuaine a night, was come, and well spent: and Ornatus then by the high birthe he thought it was too late to depart. And Artesia hearing him make a motion to be gone, desired him to stay: And yet my deare Ornatus (quoth she) were no hindrance unto her selfe for my sake; for shold Leontes seruants finde you here, it might redound to our great disherte: Ornatus although he did consider the inuoluntarie, to be his leave of her, and left her shedding abundance of teares. Ornatus being gone, found the seruants awake, and watching his coming in, one of them saying: Will you, what wouldest thou for safety, to come into Musters house? Marche on the board, where you gigher be in her Chamber? Will you haue I understand your behaviour, and what I am to say to you? And take you

## of ORNATVS and ARTE SIA.

you to be some countefair, else should not such behavour  
pasteth you, as we have heeld, therfore verily than  
you stand by will we give you full knowledge of your wrongs,  
and fidelty; with that, then lackt all the more, not suffering  
him to gae out again. Ornatus by that perceyved, that they had  
seen the kindness he shewed him and Artecia, whiche he knew well  
Leson should understand, he shewed eft what he was,  
these thoughts troublid his heart exceedingly, that he was al-  
sured, wylle he could be rid of them, there was no meane to  
escape death, if Lenon shold know him. With these studes  
he sat a good while silent, till he perceyved them to come to him,  
and calling his eye aside, clappyd a blis hanning by the wall,  
to which he stole secretly, and taking hold of the lable, he wrynt  
towards them, entring into these meditations: And wylle I  
now comyt wurther, and warden my soule by so basyness  
a thyme: what wyl Artecia say if she knoweth art so vidoone  
to hem, and that the heart is so hard. 1600. 1601. 1602. 1603.  
Counte these blouds. Ornatus he wylt alwayes remembre this  
this deede, and bethinke of some other meane to avoyd the pain-  
ger thou art ready to fall into. Other meane Ornatus wylt not  
wher other maner hast a done of all this, thou knowes not  
ther hast betrayed that art made thy widdow, but wylt not  
say that thou wylle a question to have the leys, and by their wittes  
make thy shife of thy life, banish, ban, ban, ban, ban, ban, ban,  
and being once done thou art safe: but no delay, thy phone  
diseaseth verily, 1604. 1605. 1606. 1607. 1608. 1609. 1610. 1611. 1612. 1613. 1614. 1615. 1616. 1617. 1618. 1619. 1620. 1621. 1622. 1623. 1624. 1625. 1626. 1627. 1628. 1629. 1630. 1631. 1632. 1633. 1634. 1635. 1636. 1637. 1638. 1639. 1640. 1641. 1642. 1643. 1644. 1645. 1646. 1647. 1648. 1649. 1650. 1651. 1652. 1653. 1654. 1655. 1656. 1657. 1658. 1659. 1660. 1661. 1662. 1663. 1664. 1665. 1666. 1667. 1668. 1669. 1670. 1671. 1672. 1673. 1674. 1675. 1676. 1677. 1678. 1679. 1680. 1681. 1682. 1683. 1684. 1685. 1686. 1687. 1688. 1689. 1690. 1691. 1692. 1693. 1694. 1695. 1696. 1697. 1698. 1699. 1700. 1701. 1702. 1703. 1704. 1705. 1706. 1707. 1708. 1709. 1710. 1711. 1712. 1713. 1714. 1715. 1716. 1717. 1718. 1719. 1720. 1721. 1722. 1723. 1724. 1725. 1726. 1727. 1728. 1729. 1730. 1731. 1732. 1733. 1734. 1735. 1736. 1737. 1738. 1739. 1740. 1741. 1742. 1743. 1744. 1745. 1746. 1747. 1748. 1749. 1750. 1751. 1752. 1753. 1754. 1755. 1756. 1757. 1758. 1759. 1760. 1761. 1762. 1763. 1764. 1765. 1766. 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outwardly she refused; but his behaviour, her own lone, the present occasion, so fit opportunity, theyr hearts misse, and other sweet inticements, so far preuailed, that she yielded vp her unspotted body, & pure challice, to his possession: and the impulsion of his attempt, dissolved her virgin joane, giving full intentes of her heart, loue, and body, to him that pursued the possession of those riches with earnestnesse. Sometimes blushing, sometimes shaming, and yet yielding; denying, and yet granting; willing, and unwilling; yet at last she gaue that he could not recall, and let him possesse her spotesse, virginitie, whiche being past her heart panted with a motion, & she felte her senses sad; a little repenting, yet not altogether sorry, sighing so; sadness, and yet not sad at all: whilest he bathed himselfe in that bauen of blisse; passing the rest of that night in such unspeakable pleasure, as cannot be deciphered. Barely the next morning he arose, taking his farewell with a sweete adue, leaving Artesia sad for sorrow, and lamenting his absence, but yet with earnest and hearty prayers, imitating his happy successe: bating her heart, in like-warme feates, thinking she had bene too prodigal of her favours to him, & yet esteeming him worthie of a thousand times a greater gift, if she had it in her possession: with repentance rejoycing, though bairning her selfe metamorphosed, and other then she wout to be; being glad she had no more company to conuerse withall, least her gait should make her blash, & so bewray her fault. And when Phoebus began to lighten the Chamber with his splendor, she hid her self within the bed, as if the day light had accused her of y she had done in the dark. Ornatus being come to the Camp, found out Phylastes, and brought him to Artesias lodging: by the way intrusting him how to ayder their busines when Lenon shold come. Where being entred, Phylastes having saluted Artesia & a while conuersant about theyr affaires, they changed theyr habite: Ornatus with many a sorrowfull sigh, taking his leave of her whilest his heart bled warm drops of blood. Ornatus againe tooke his leaue of Artesia, & entred the Camp, framing himself to such kind of behauor, that he was of all taken for Phylastes. Neles came, that the Armenians were landed, and had

brought their forces within a day's march of Theron's Camp, the King assembled all the chiefe Leaders together, to appoint every man his charge, and consult what to doe. Ornatvs in Phylastes stead, had under his chiefe counte thousand men, whom, by his owne seeing, he was appoynted to convey into a valle, that laye neare to one no the enemy: and he was appoynted to other places, that saued for men aduantage. Ornatvs having his soldiers alone, thought it time to execute what he intended, and therfore called unto him such as were Captaines and chiefe under him, offering these wordes: Fellowe soldiers, I would willingly bittre my minde, which is troubled in some sort with remembrance of the iniuries Alinus hath already causelessly enured, against whom now we are appoynted our selues to fight: wherein, in my minde, we deale basely: for he was never a traytor to his country, nor now committeth to disturbe the land with oppression; but onely to clasp his owne inheritance and liberty, which our selues doe permit: therfore I thinke it best before we draw our swa- pons, to consider against whom we draw them, and whom we offend: one that loueth his Country and people, and would not willingly shed a drop of our bloud. Now, if I could finde a remedie for all this, which standeth with equity, would you fol- low my directions? With that, they all at once said, they would be ruled by him. Then he said, Theron that is now our King, destroyed all his family, & such as are in any degree neare un- to him in bloud: the last of whom is Alinus, whose utter ruine he now seeketh, not by iniurie, but that neither he nor any of his progeny shal binder his succellion: Wherefore, if you will follow his counsell, when the Armies are met, let vs not offer to offend the Armenians, but keep our selues from blight, until Lenon affrighted therewith, & fearing the peoples revolt, will peraduenture yeld to perorme the Articles the Armeni- an Cambassors demanded: & by this meanes shal we restore Alinus to his right. Lase the effusion of bloud, and yet not losse our reputation. The people hearing his speeches, ge- nerally gaue ther consent: crying, Phylastes, Phylastes. With that, Ornatvs bestowed the Gelo among them that Lenon had

## of ORNATVS and ARTESTA.

had before given him, which hee had with the grauitude ex-  
ceedingly. Ornatus having entered this according to his de-  
sire, went into the Armenian Campe, desirous to speake with  
Allinus the Generall, to whom he declared what he intended  
in his departing, not desirous to make knowne any other then  
Phylastes: by whiche Allinus yielded him many hearty thanks.  
Whiles Ornatus was absent, a Captaine named Ortonus,  
drawne by desire of reward, and aboue the rest fauouring Le-  
nons party, fel from the wood, and comming into y Campe  
to Lenon, bewrayed what Phylastes intended, and how that  
he was now gone to the Armenians Campe, to conferre with  
Allinus. Lenon hearing that, thought it best not to send for  
him by warrant, but amongst the rest, to assembl him to coun-  
cell, and to that effect sent a Herauld. Ornatus being returned  
had knowledge of the generall Assembly, and willingly went,  
little suspecting what Lenon intended: and being entered the  
Campe, and Lenons Tent, he was before all the Estates, by a  
Herauld arrested of high Treason. Ornatus then thought his  
intent was bewrayed, demanding what they could lay to his  
charge. Whereupon Ortonus, before them all, declared what  
he had done; which he could not deny: upon which accusation,  
he was presently sent to the Court, and there impsoned.

### CHAP. XV.

How Ornatus was deliuered out of prison, and carried Artesta  
from the Court. How Ornatus in a single Combat ouer-  
came Lenon, and caused Theons flight: And how Artesta,  
to escape Theon, fled to Adellenas house.

The newes of Ornatus imprisonment was  
soone blazed through the whole Camp, Court,  
& Country, & at last came to Artestas hearing;  
who with exceeding lamentations bewayled  
his misfortune: but Phylastes comming unto  
her, comforted her all y he could: promising to  
set Ornatus at liberty, if (quoth he) at Lenons next coming, you  
will request his Signet, to keep as his warrant for your safety.

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The next day the Armies should meet: and therefore Lenon that night witten Artesia; and finding her very sad, demandes the cause thereof: O my Lord (quoth she) how can I be otherwise then sad, when I am ready every houre to fall into more miserie; not knowing, whether your life may be in-dangered by these Warres, and I thereby subiect to some misfortune: therefore, in signe you loue me, graunt me your signet, to be my warrant and primitiue, against all iniurie that may be offered me: With that she kill him; which she had never before done: not dravone by any good will, but with desire to helpe Ornatus. Lenons heart was so overcome, that he presently gave her the same; staying some time with her to intreat her consent to his loue. He was no sooner gone, but Phylastes taking the King of Artesia, went unto the place where Ornatus was, and conning to the Gaoler, told him, that he must deliver Phylastes to his custody: shewing him the Princes signet as his warrant. The Gaoler seeing the same, & knowing that the Pilgrim was of great credit and trust with Lenon, made no doubt, but presently delivered Ornatus unto him; both departing together, to Artesia: who seeing her beloved so sovernely delivered, shed feares of toy for his escape. After salutations in the kindest sort past, Ornatus declared what he intended, and how he was betrayed by Ortonus. Phylastes then counselled Ornatus, that night to convey Artesia from thence, unto some place of better securtie: who sometimes thought to carry her to Adellenas house: but he thought Lenon would misdoubt that place. At last he concluded, to convey her to her Castle, where Arbatus her father dwelt: which was still kept to her use, by certaine of her fathers servants: Both Artesia and Phylastes liked this well; and therefore leaving the Court, they departed thitherwards. Artesia not wonten to travell, could scarcely endure to hold out: but by theire helpe, they arrived there at midnight: and knocking, awaked the Porter: who looking ouer the Battlements, demanded who was below at that unreasonable time of the Night: my friend quoth Ornatus, it is Artesia, that cometh in time of her most need, for her box in this place. The Porter viewing her well by the bright light

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light Cynthia, knew her, and calling up the rest of his fellows, came running downe, and opened the gate, where he and the rest received her in with great joy.

Ornatus was glad of this happy escape: but yet exceeding sad, that he could not assist his father against Lenon, but that he must perforce be absent from his rescue: whiche filled his heart with such care, that all that night he could take no rest: and though he enjoyed Artesias company without controll, he could harbo: no rest or quiet to his distempered thoughts: thac Phylastes demanded the cause of his sadness. My assured friend Phylastes (quoth he) the semembiance of my fathers estate and forme of his mis-hap, maketh me thus sad: and grieses exceeding conuent pocketh me, that I cannot be present to aide him against Lenon, that by cowardly malice, not with valour, will sieke his ruine before any others: O, were I but present to defend him, though I offend none, my heart would be at quiet. Artesia hearing his speaches, said: Good Ornatus, doe not againe hazard your selfe, as you lately did: for had not fortune and Phylastes woldome allured us, both your life, and with it mine, had binne cast away. My deare Artesia (quoth he) that misfortune hath brought me toidome, and by conuincing me, I will helpe to redresse such mischeces, and to redresse your selfe: the more, I beseeche you, grant, I may have a little bus, to doe my busynesse young my father: whiche I will helpe you without danger, by thac I will make none private to that I intend, nor attempte it, even I am able to performe. Artesia hearing howe willingly he wold be to doe herredes her selfe, but to shewe her, another stoye saith: My deare Ornatus, thy wille bindeth me to consent, but thy loue willeth me to deny: feare of your mis-hap maketh me dailli-ling, but wille to shewe your deuise, maketh me give an entoll-ling consent: wherefore I make request unto you, that you will take Phylastes in your company, and leame me to the custody of my ser-  
vants, whose fidelity I am assured of: soz having him with you, his aye and counsell may much availe to preserue your life, whiche if you loose (as he intendes to bid) with the same shall mine.

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more exhort, for it is impossible Artesia should breathe, Orestes being breathlesse. Orestes with a few teares, that by exceeding griele were wrung fram his heart, participated her lament: first requesting the sermons to be carefull of her god, and then, without delay, both furnishing himselfe & Phylastes with his Armes, and boote of which there was a great shewe in that Asseis: so that the day began to appere, then thought it time to depart, least there comming from thence might be misconered. There might one beheld sorrow at parting in his right forme; heart-wraking sighs breathing farewells, and Inconsolable teares at so soch a parting: when these lippes were parted, their bandes still fast, their handes vs. joined, then in their boyces ostentuous uttering that woful woorde Farewell: and when they were past hearing, their eyes haluilllye leaving each others sight, he booke his shoon, looking backe; and she within, looking after him, as though in her woe, the glimmering glasse of his branche shewyd her he was full high of her, with baxtry eyes beholding the place of her alone. Thus payred soe, as if then had parted never to meet.

22. A munday nigh the Armes, when he held them met, and in hot stridish strapping full a good shewe to see in to other then party, it was like as the but the wounding stroke, and in the end he had helde the Arcadianes beynge putte to flight, and Leron, with the Ilyon his lader in the middest of the shoon, making execrable laugher, and proue of their named conquest. At which let Orestes heart on fire, that he rushet amongst the thickest of his Companions, he stroake off his shoon, and drawing a boone of the bloud he louned, but shoulde making shew to them all, which made them not offer to shew his wounding, and admiring him if he had, let him goe free; after whiche Phylastes hasted to the Ilyon soldiers, seeing these two hem come, by nighte, offend none, inquired what then shold he not shew of them, shewing a boone because they of themselves, in the same dayes come to the place where Leron was, who sent them, if he neuer had mett Alilius: beynge whom many aduises and somme bannings were given, and received in this Alilius bancke, moste by reason of his age. Orestes knew my lord of her, by his enim

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Arment, came betwix them with his sword drawn, saying: Leon slay thy hand, let age give free, & let thy youth cope with me, that am come to challenge the before both the Armes, and therfore as thou art the Kings sonne, a knight, and honourable Gentleman, give order by thy Herald, to stay the fury of the bat, tylle till thou and I have tryed our valours: otherwise, this knight and I have vowed to thund thee from place to place, and never give over, untill we have spilt the blood. noij mad

Leon hearing this Champions proud challenge, said: If thou art a knight, a Gentleman as I am, and canst shew wherein I have wronged thee, I will answer thee: otherwise know that I scorne thee, although I know my selfe of sufficent strength to abate thy haughty presumption: were thine armes great, which that, thou Mervynnes sent from either Generall, to part the Soldiers; which done, Ornatus before the open Assembly, said: Leon, first I say, I am a Gentleman, as absolute and as god as thy selfe, Prince I am none, neither am I thy knight, but that by thyne vicerayation thou heldest the same: I come as Artesas Champion to challenge thee of Villany, as the wrongs thou hast committed by detaying her liberty, doe manifest: I challenge thee for doing injustice to Alinus, by whom thou withdrawest from his right, by trapping him, and challenge thee as partaker of Arbasus death, for that thou hast helpe uphold the murderer Floetus, that hath deserued death: I challenge thee for oppressing laid upon this whole land, and lastly for detaying Ornatus living, who never was impeached of treason: & therfore as thou darest answer my challenge, I am he verayn other wise, I promis thee for a reward of scold, not shew thy to bloud James, Leon made this reply: Being incensed by a stranger without cause I regard me none, & being iudg my selfe, will not by this be assuaged: but to thy proud challenge, I will answere this, sir Urnes Regarding your chalenge and cause, I say thou baslyngly hast done of the wrong: I will the next day, before I depart, I will without delay, shew to thy haughty selfe, though thy accusations are manifestly fallethe; & both to me and to the Artesas dearely as I do my selfe; my cause to saye Cromwells, is just: for Alinus,

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he is both a traitor at home and abroad; first, in causing his complices to take his fathers life, and lastly, for bringing these Armens to destroy this Country; and for Orenatus pardon, it to mete, not mislike. As for opposition done to Orenatus, all know, I never injured him; but if he take the swiche that is done to his traitorous father, as done to him, I cannot helpe that; but revenge it thou, since thou art his Champion. Oraatus had much abode to stay to heare out his speech, which galled him to the very heart; that without speaking a word more, he smote at Lenon, and Lenon with courage, answered his blowes, beginning a most sterte and terrible encounter; and with like fury, continuing the same, till both had received many wounds, and their steeds began to be furious and mad, with the smart of some strokcs that miss their right ayne, not dight; and thus the battayle was engagid.

Orenatus calling to remembrance, all the iniuries he had received, & that Lenon, & none else, could dispossesse him of Arce-  
sias loue, & many other wrongs he had done him and his parents; though now to revenge them all, and dispossesse Thaon of the  
Crownes, by Lenons death; reviving his spirit with such cou-  
rage that he began with denied strength to assaile Lenon, who  
when that began to faint, would have yelded, but that shame  
withheld him. Whiche when Orenatus perceiued, he thought at  
once to end the strife, that in this so zealous blow he gane him  
to kepe a wound in the right arme, where the Arme was  
wakern away, that he let fall his sword, and fell senselesse on  
his horsebacke. Thaon perciuing his sonne in that danger,  
with his Gaurdians rushing in, rescued him from Orenatus  
stroke; whiche the stroke that parted his head from his body.  
With this, both the armes joynd battaille again the Armeni-  
ans with newe courage rushing upon their enemies; whose  
hearts began to fail, seeing Lenon so neare death, whiche made  
such a confusione amongst them, that they were ready to flye, or  
yelde to all; but to fight it out; that of a sabbathine, the Armeni-  
ans had slaine an infinite number of them, and all the earth  
was dyed to a purple colour, with their bloud. Orenatus heart  
was vexed to see so much of his Countries bloud shed, that he  
increas-

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intreated Phylastes, to perswade the Shoulders to give over, and himselfe rode betwixt the two Armies with a Herald, desiring them to stay theire fury for a while. Long it was before they would give over, but at last by the Drums and Trumpet sound, having called back the Armenians, Ornatus placing himselfe in the midit of his Countrmen, that a multitude might heare him, said: Renowned people of Phrygia, heare my speach, that am tormented to see so much of our bloud shed, the execration whereof, I seeke by all meanes to stop, having as you see for the loue I beare to you, not lifted my hand against any of you, but onely Lenou the causes that urge me to challenge him, is the manifest wrongs he and his father hath done to your selues this Country, and all the Nobility; for the true testimony whereof, let every one inwardly examine his owne conscience, and they will not deny my word, but finde themselves exceedingly grieved with his oppression. Doe you not see what destruction he hath brought vpon this Land? Are not almost all the Nobility slayne and destroyed? Are not your liberties, goode, and friends taken from you? Is not the whole Land in an uproare, and every one driven from his quiet at home to venture his life in the field, and all this for satisfaction of his will and selfe-command, not grounded vpon law or iustice? Examining your consciences, is he your lawfull King? did he not mucher your lawfull King, onely to make you his basals? Again, doth Ailinus seeke to doe his Country wrong? doth he come to oppresse you? doth he seeke to abuse your liberty? No; he onely commeth to clayne his possessions, by iniurie taken from him; he commeth as hygh as grise, not to live as a hanished man, being himselfe, his wife, children, and familiy daieren to live in pulser and slouere, for the satisfaction of his lust. Then I beseech you, good Shoulders, consider well what you doe, whom you defend, a traytor, and whom you resist, a deare friend, that longeth and feudeth your houes as deare as his owne; whose estate the Armenians pitie, to whom he was never gracious; but his owne Countrymen heare you are hardened against him, reuaping cruelties so big done; and resistance to withhold his right.

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I could alledge so many reasons to dissuade you from following Thaons will, as would aske a tedious recitall, but I know you are of wisdome to conceiue the right, your hearts mercifull to pity him, and your minds apt to doe justice: then give hym ouer, discharge your minds of care, and disburthen your selues of his oppression, I stand here as an Advocate to pleade for Allinus right, that hath indured too much wrong: I stand here as Artesias Champion, that is impinsoned by Lenon, abused by Lenon, and withheld from her liberty by Lenon: I stand here to intreat you save your owne lives, to preserve your liberty, to execute justice, and to doe Allinus right, Then I beseech you, lay aside your Armes, taken in defence of wrong; and turne your hearts to pity innocency: whereby you shall save many of your lives, help your selues men that are ruled by misaduise, not by rage; and purchase liberty, freedome, and peace, for ever. Then you that beare the true hearts of Phrygians, follow me, and forsake to follow that Wurper, and way such ruffie and vngentlemanlike to ensue by your refusal: and let the rightfull Heire enjoy the Crowne; who will loue you, cherishe you, who seeke his Countries peace. The peoples hearts were so altered with his speeches, that many came running to him, crying, Allinus, Allinus: and the rest that were not yet resolved. And in a doubt what to doe, William Wyke Tenne comitteth his fayres to follow him, who withdrawes hymself from the Camp, and espyng so fit occasion, determined likewise not to follow Thaon longer, whom he neither hated nor loued, but yet esteemed as unlawfull usurper of that Kingdome, and rather desiring Allinus should pacient his right inheritance, then alway willingly contradicting the faute? being, as many others were, forred to come to those warres, fearing Thaons displeasure; who cared not in what sorte his will was performed. Ternus therfore drew himselfe a part with this pollicie, that if Thaon predaile, yet he could not impoach him, and if Allinus had the best, yet he could not helpe that Ternus withdrawe him, thinking it the greatest poynt of withdrawe to helpe himselfe upright.

Thaon

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Thazon had no sooner conneyed his sonne to his Tent, and with much adoe recovered him to his senss, but there came a messenger postng from the Court, with newes, That Phylas-  
tes was two payes since escaped out of pris'on : and presently after him, another brought newes, That Artesia, with the Pil-  
grim, was fled, but no man could tell whither. Lenon hearing  
the newes, becames almost mad, and raged so extreamly, that  
his wounds burst into fresh bleeding. And to fill vp his heart  
with sorrow and vexation, another messenger from the Camp  
came running in, crying : Flye Thazon, flye, we are betrayed  
to the Enemie ; the Leaders, Captaines, and Souldiers, are  
reuoled; and the Enemy is neare at hand, to surprize the :  
Flye, and save thy life ; for thine owne subiects haue left the :  
and refused thy Government. Thazon was so amazed and ter-  
rified with feare, that without regard of Lenons life, he fled to  
save himselfe ; every one, sauing those y fled with Thazon, with  
haste running to theyr reuolting fellowes, to save themselves.

This newes was brought to Allinus : who hearing the same,  
and being pale feare of Thasons rage, sent a Herauld to Ter-  
nus, to know whether he were his friend, or still continued  
those Bands, to resist him as his foe : who returned this an-  
swe. That he was never foe to him, but alwayes wist his  
good : afterwards dismising his souldiers, & sending every one  
well rewarde to his owne house ; himselfe comming back to  
his Tent : whers he met Allinus, whom he kindly saluted.  
Whither were assembled the chiefe States of the Land, to whom  
Allinus said : My Lords, since Thazon and Lenon are fled, and  
none left but your Noboys, in place of Justice, with right and  
equality to minister the same to such as haue sustayned wrong:  
I, as one that haue aboue the greatest losse, commit my cause  
to your wisdomes : You know what injuries I haue endured  
by his malice ; onely, soz that I sought to set Arctoia at liberty,  
that was by Lenon impisoned, and badly used : requesting no-  
thing of you, but that which by right is mine, and belangeth to  
me by inheritance. The Nobles with a generall assent gran-  
ted, that he shoulde enjoy his former Possessions ; and that his  
losse shoulde be repaid out of the Kings Treasure.

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Ornatus standing by, saith: Dost noble Peeres, you stand here debating mattets, whilless the cause of your woe is living, and farre yngough from yielding to that you graunt, who now per-aduenture is mustering new Forzes, to make frustrate what you intend, and to worke revenge: Which to prevent, give me your consents to pursue him; and he being once taken, then may you, without controll, either establissh hem, or chuse a new, that shold by right be your King.

To this all the Nobles gaue consent; and Ornatus, with thre thousand horsemen, followed Theron: who first tooke the greene Fortresse, with ffe hundred men; who continued firme, wonne by great rewards: but hearing of the Armentans approach, under the conduct of the stranger that slew Lenon, in the night he fled, with a hundred of his nearest friends and allies, to Arbastus Castle; where he thought to live secure, and unkowne, for that he thought his enemies wold least of all suspect that place. He arrived there in the dead time of the night: but knocking, was denied entrance; which made him almost desperate, that he assayed to enter by force: and preualed so, that he gat in with the rest of his company, making fast the gates againe after them.

Artesias servants knowing what he was, some ran one way, some another, to hide themselves from him one amongst the rest, came running into Artesias Chamber, declaring to her what had besallen, & how that the King had taken the Castle. Artesia having not yet heard of Lenons death, nor what successe Ornatus had in the Camp, wringing her hands, made this lamentation: Twice hath my deare Ornatus left me in this danger, and hazarded his owne life, hoping to attaine good successe; but cruel fortune hath still crowst his laugable attempts; and left both him & my poore selfe in extreame misery. Now am I assured he is taken prisoner againe, and my selfe am like not long to goe frée; for I am late the King hath heard of my being here, which makineth him come thither to me, I might I but be made prisoner in the same place by Ornatus lyeth enthailed, that I might yet enjoy his sight, then should I thinke my selfe happy in misery; but if he to me too much, they will punitly murther

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marther him, and never let me know thereof: whereby I shall be held with long frustrated hope to let him, and in the end be deceived. Never was poor Mayden brought to such miserie; now I thinke true love never crost with such bitter aduersities, whiche beth he for me, and I for him, haue bene continually subiect vnto, euer since our first acquaintance. As she was still continuing her lamentes, the same servant, whose name was Christus, came running in againe, saying: Deare mistresse, I haue found a meane for your escape from heire, unespyed, if you will attempt the same, which is without any danger at all. Never tell me what it is (quoth she) bat be thou my guide, and I will follow thee, for I will attempt any thing to escape from him. Then quoth he her by the hand, leading her out of that Roome into a darke Chappel, where, by reason of the night, there appeared not the least glimpe of light, and through that, into many darke Roomes & unrequited places of the Castle, vntill he came to a posterne gate, which he opened, and after he was out from the same fast againe, saying: Now Mistresse, you are out of the Castle, and passe safe of the King, who little knoweth you can passe out this way; therefore I pray tell me whether I shall conduct you? I thank thee god Christus (quoth she) for this thy good assistance, for which I will one day be thankfull unto thee; and now I pray thee direct me to Adellena's house, who is my faythfull friend, and will rather die then discouer me. Thus said, they began their journey, which was but thre miles, and therfore they soone overcame the same, even by the mornings light arriving at ywthes place. Adellena hearing some knock at the gate, commanded her maid to rise, to say whiche was the Damosell comming downe, before the wind open the gate, asked who was there? Artesia knowinge her voyce, said: It is Artesia, god Anna let me in. With that, the Damosell opened the gate, condueting her to her Mistresse Chamber; who espying her, was so surprised with joy, that she imbroding her into abundance of teares, saying: Welcome my deare Artesia, I was afraid I shoulde never haue seene you againe, you haue bene so long time abfere. Indeed (quoth she) I haue bene

long

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long absent from thence, though still not farre from thence: but I haue newes of importance to tell thee, whiche I will forbear to speake of, untill I haue refreshed my selfe. for care and trouble I hath made me exceedingly weary. When Adelena brought her into a sweet and pleasant Chamber, wher the laste her comme to rest.

## C H A P. XVI.

How Ornatvs surprized Theron in Arctesias Castle, who was slaine by one of his owne servants.



Ramus hearing the King had taken the greene Fortresse, beset the same round with horsemen: who take certayne of the things following: that being brought before him, tolde him, the King was then with some hundred in his company, to Arctesias Castle: which when he heard, without de-  
lay he rode thither, fearing lest Theron getting up, and finding Arctesia, shoulde offer her some injury. He was no maner come, but he found it so; for he had deneged entrance, nor could see one of Arctesias servants, whom he left as keepers of the same: which so much disquieted his heart, that he could not tell what to do, thinking it best to intreat Theron kindly, lest he shoulde sake revenge against Arctesia, though the wres innocent, and no way to be blamed for any wronge: and such a multitude of contrayours feares arose in his fancies, that he seemed therewith metamorphosed, whiche Phylastes some perceiued, and comming to him, said: How now Ornatvs what, hath feare taken away your courage? Dost friend Phylastes (quoth he) Theron is within, and therby possesse of Arctesia, whose mind is so farre from the least thoughts of vertue, that he woulde be wylde to take revenge on her, feare not that (quoth he) but comand him to the snails by the sound of a Trumpet, and wyl him to redeeme selfe, and to the consideracion of his sholde, and promise him, with safetye to comand him thither. Ornatvs allured his selfe, and therfore comandea a Trumpet to sound a parley: and therupon one from the

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the King appeared on the walles, demanding what he would have. To whom Ornatvs said: Well Theron the King, that we come to him from the partes of the Realme. The messenger told the King what he said: Whereupon Theron came in sight, demanding what he would have.

Answerd he, I would have you yield; least by resistance, you procure a greater iniurie to your selfe, then is by us pretended. Suppose I shoulde yeld, quoth he, how would you use me a like a King (quoth Ornatvs) honorably. I haue found, said he, so small cause to trust you, that it were sondesse to put my self within compasse of your viceroye: therefore I will kepe my selfe here steyng, and dwelinge in my houres, to haue so many friends, as shall keepe thee and the Armenians from the walles, and reme of this country, which he spake, upon the confidence he had in certaine friends, that had promised to gather new forces, but meant never to performe the same.

Ornatvs was much troubled in minde, to thinke what was becomes of Artesia; marvelling that he spake not of her, nor could heare of any of her servants, that might give him knowledge how she fared. But seeing his faire words would not proue white, said: Theron, since thou refuseth the courteous proffer, I make thee, know, that my intent is to lare yow, and since thou intencion be to keepe Artesia, I will insooore thee to submit thy selfe to my mercy, or abide my rigour; for not all the friends thou canst finde, shall shelter thee from my revenge: for I haue this in thy deathe, and nothing but that, shall satisfie me, with which how I will once againe reuoke, if you will yeld without instrument, and deliuer me Artesia in safety, that is in that Castle. Artesia (quoth Theron) had I her in my custody, I wold be revenged on her, because thou wist her safety: but this is far enough from me; therefore thou keepe her in haine at my haunes, who shuld so readilie deliuer her to thow, as thou condest aske; so, that I esteeme her not. But for my selfe, it shall never be said, my minde would stoupe to haue subuission; nor that a King yelded to a slave, and base washall, as thou art. Dost thou thinke that a roiall minde can put on so degenerate a habite? No: tell thow, whatsoeuer thou art, I haue rather

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by information dyt, then by information line. But be thou adwaied what thou doest, how they lye before these walls; for there are so many whetting their sworhs, and putting on Ar- mour in my defence, as ere the morning sunne arise, will scare thes from hence. Ornatus heart could not indure these braues, and being withall vexed, so feare that Artesia should sustaine some iniurie, thought speedily to make renenge. Whiche, by Phylastes counsell, he remitted until it were night, that then unwares they myght by some meanes get entrance into the Castle, and so supprise them.

Ornatus thinking to haue vnde by himselfe, to breake forth in sighte some payre of sworhs that posset his hand; and withall, determining to diuise the Castle, how he myght with conuenientie get into the same without destroying it; for that it belonged to his beloued; he espred the Posterne gate: whereat thrusting it myghtly dore open; which way, as yet, neither Theron nor any of his compaie had founde. Ornatus heart was glad he haue folowyd godly meane to accomplit his wyl; and plucking the same to sygaine, came to Phylastes, and tolde hym thereof. When both of them presently agreed to enter that way, and surpise them: conveying a hundred of the best souldiers secretly under the wall vnder that Posterne, and placing the rest in the open field of the Castle, as if none of syeue had bene wantyng.

Ornatus and Phylastes entred, and after them, the rest: who passing along through the walle roomes, at last came to the place where they had left Artesia, but found her not: and such successe had they in cheare attempt; that Ornatus comming behinde Theron, smote him with his hand on the backe, before he had any knowledge of his approach. Theron therewith startinge and looking backe, was amazed; but running forward, drew out his sworh: My friends, saue and defend your selues; wherewithal those that were about him, drew theyr sworhs: To whom Ornatus said: And when vnto his sworh he spake: I held (quod Theron) but much agaist my will: for I had

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had friends dealt faithfully, I had not beene left in this misery. But since fortune so much favoureth thee, as to make me thy prisoner, use me well, for that I am a King, and to none but thy selfe am intituled. Tell me (quoth Ornatus) what is become of Artesia, that not many dayes since I left in this place. I saw her not (quoth Thron) nor know I where she is, only I found certaine servants in this place, whome I haue put to death, least they shoulde bewray my being here. Tyrant, quoth Ornatus, thinkest thou theyr deaths shall goe unrevenged? couldest thou be so cruell, as to murther those that were innocent? with whom, I leave me, thou hast made away Artesia? why, what art thou, quoth Thron, that west such vndecent words to a King, that art thy selfe not worthy to speake to a King? and why makest thou such inquiry after Artesia, that soe ought I know hath no interest in her? suppose I haue slaine her that was the cause of al this woe, what canst thou challenge at my hands for her? it had beene good she had never beene borne, for she only hath caused the originall of these troubles. Art thou a King, quoth Ornatus, and bearest so vnkynly a mind, as to slaunder true vertue? No: thou art a villaine, a murtherer, a Traytor to this Land, an usurper of the Crowne, and a most wicked and cruell homicide: but for that thou wouldest know what I am, know, that I haue more interest to the Crowne then thou hast; my nagle Ornatus, and thy enemy, to whom by right that Crowne belongeth; which thou shalt no longer enjoy. Therefore, said he, such as are my friends, lay hold on this Traytor. He had no sooner spake those words, but Throns owne servants were the first that apprehended him, being weary of his governement: and one amongst the rest, thinking that he had commannded them to slay him, and withall, hoping soe reward for that forward exploit, having his sword ready drawn, suddenly (whilst Ornatus did but turne backe to conser with Phylacter) smit the same through Throns body; that giving a pitious groane, he gane up the Ghost. Ornatus turning backe, demanded who had done that deede: with that, the murtherer wens backe, fearing to come before him, untill he was compeld.

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To whom Ornatus said: What art thou, that hast done this  
deed: art thou not one of his servants? hast not thou been mar-  
tained by him? did he not trust thee with his life? was he not the  
King? then how durst thou presume to strike thy master, be in-  
gratefull to him that gave thee gifts, prove false to him that  
favoured thee, and slay thine annoynted King? My Lord (quod he)  
I did mistake your words; and hope to preserue my owne life,  
make me to doe that deede, which I thought would haue pleased  
you. I am not (quod he) sorry he is dead, but for that thou slew-  
est him, whom thou in all duty baignest to haue defended: for  
which, thou shalt dye a miserabla death. Then he comanded  
that he shoulde be borne in pieces with boyses: which before he  
departed thence, was performed.

### CHAP. XVII.

How Ornatus was chosen King. How he departed vndeowne  
in search of Artesia. How Lenon sought againe to betray  
him, but was disappoynted. How he was banished. Tyresus  
pardoned. And Ornatus and Artesia royally married.



The King dead, Ornatus, with Phylakes, re-  
turned to the Court, where all the Peeres  
were assembled: who before his coming,  
had by a voluntary messenger, vnderitold the  
maner of Thasons death, the care whereof  
was already past, so that few or none at all  
loued him: but now theyr care was, whom to chuse as thye  
King: but first they welcommned Ornatus, none of them all  
knowing him, no; oncs suspeyting what he was: who now  
ould haue no further occasion to conceale himselfe: but hum-  
bling himselfe before Allinus, he said: My renowned Lord, the  
cause I haue so long concealed my selfe, hath beeene for feare of  
the Kings crueltie, and Lenons enuy, wher both would haue  
hanged me: but now being nowe of that midwight, your  
proue some Ornatus submitteth himselfe, busily cravynge per-  
son for my neglect of duty. vpon that, he daungered his dead  
and his Father knowing him, in most louing wise imbraced  
him,

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him, shedding teares for joy of his safetie, whom he thought had beeene long since dead. Duke Ternus and the rest resorted to see him, and with imbracings expreste theyr joy, entring into admiration of his honoured parts, and noble chivalry. Phylastes being likewise knowne, was much commended, whom they durst not haue mortised in the Prison by Lenon, so that he could not be found. Allius beholding Ornatus, and with what valour he had behaued himselfe, reisyced exceedingly: the Commons clapt ther hands for joy, and the Peeres amongst themselves began to relate, howbeit modestly, baltantly, and prudently, he had behaued himselfe in all that he had undertaken. After many welcomes past, Ternus erating audience, stood vp, uttering these speches: My Lords, we mere not now deseruing of Allius his right, because there is none to contradict what we establish. Be it vs, we being all now assembled together, and our late surpising King dead, there can be no fitter time to chuse a new King: and such a one, as by right of blood, & by our generall consent, may rule vs. Theron your knoll was no way interested to the Crowne, but by usurpation, and had robbt us almost all that he knew to haue any title or interest in our late Kings blood, of which House, Allius was in the last by mariage of the Lady Alura, parts him to succeade King: therfore the right being in hym, if there be any man in this Assembly, that can contradict that which I haue said, let him speake. Whiche whiche he had said, he agayne sat downe. Upon his speches, the nobles confesse the auctoritie, & at last by common assent cryed out, Let Ornatus be our King. Ornatus is our King. The nobles likewise gave consent to that the multitude like, and Ornatus was chosen King: though they would haue credoubt but at his deesse, they deserte the day of his Coronation wch was enight in the moone time attaining him as their King: and that day, shoulde grete Moryaltie, setting hym in possesyon of the dale, & a greate dede. All busynesse for that day being enow, the Armenians stichly remorded, scolded, and battell ready to stanche, Allius inquiet, but for the want of his Lady, & all thinges good to her. Ornatus being alone by himselfe, moured much, vnglist his eyes, & sayngh

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ueling what was become of her; sometimes thinking she was slain by Thazon, and then supposing she was escaped out at the Postern gate, which he found open: that in these contradictions of doubts he continued, sometimes despairing and then againe feeding himselfe with hope, and slayn still yised to him.

After Artesia had rested her selfe, and received some part of her sleepe she had lost that night, though but with broken slumbers; she began to declare to Adellena, what miseries she had indured, & troubles she had past, since she was by Lenon carried from her house; how she met with Ornatus againe, & every thing that was befallen, with the cause of her flight at that instant. But Adellena said she, I feare me I shall never see him againe: for had he not beene taken, and his father overthrowned, Thazon could not have had so much leisure, as to come to surprise me there; but by Heavens granted me a fortunate escape: And if I could be so happy, as to heare that Ornatus were in safety, though he had not that successe his desire did myne at, my heart would be at some rest, which is now pinched with suspitious torment. His adventurous balyant heart could not be witholden, by any perversion, to leave to aid his father: but notwithstandinge infinit perils hing over his head, yet, to shew the duty of a louing soule, & the mind of a beryous balyant gentleman, he shoud not desse to hazard his person (which now, I feare me, is faine into the hands of his enemies. But yet Phylacter, I hope, will by his god and sciend counseil be a meanes to keape him from danger. Many other speches Artesia used: and Adellena said as many on the contrary part, to perswade her, y Ornatus was in safety, the truth whereof, she told her, she shoud stony knowe: for (quoth she) I have sent one of my seruants to leare the truth of all that is happened, whiche I knowefull shoulde returne, which fell out even as he had tolde: for he seruand returned, bringinge newes of Lenons death, acted by a strange knyght; and how that Thazon was slayn, and being likewise by the strange knyght surprised in Arthus Castle, was slayne by one of his owne seruants: which knyght was not knowne to be Ornatus, and was elected kyng by the spedes; but he had deforson his day of Coronation by reason of some

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Some speciall griefe that troubled him. Artesias heart was reu-  
ered with these news; knocking, a grise Ornatus indured, was  
at her absence that meletly she determined to send him knyd  
of her safety, & wrote a Letter, the contents whereof were these.

MY deare Ornatus, no newes could haue come more wel-  
come to me then your latete; and nothing more va-  
-welcome then to haore of your heauenesse: which I would  
entreast you to caale, for that I am in safety in Adelousa house;  
being by one of my seruants, the same night the King tooke  
my Castle, at a Roisterne gate, in safetie brought hither: where  
I trust, ere long, to see you, which will replenish my soule  
with exceeding comfort, for on your safety, my life and fel-  
icitie dependeth.

Yours foruer, Artesia.

Having wrote this Letter, she gave it to Thristus, willing  
him to deliver the same to Ornatus with all sped.

Wchitnes see alio many to exceeding misfortunes: and some  
men are of that vndonourable and vmanly disposition, that  
they account all meanes to attaine their deuices, lawfull; not  
regarding the shame & perill will ensue thereon. Of which na-  
tore was Lenon: who being conuayed from the Campe by his  
friends, were recovered, & kept in a secret place, leſt he might be  
knowne: having no other meanes but by absyting hymſelfe,  
to ſave his life. Whose ſuppoſed death, caused Thaons flight  
to the grēne Foxtelle: from whence likewiſe he was depar-  
ted, before Lenon could come to give him knowledge of his  
ſafety. And knowing, that it was then too late to ſalue thole  
miferies he ſtill concealed hymſelfe; following Ornatus (though  
unknowne to him) with intent to murther him, if he could by  
any meaneſ take him at aduantage: but he was ſtill disappoin-  
ted. And withall ſaw the death of his ſather, done by his owne  
ſeruant: ſtill intermingling hymſelfe amonge the ſoldiers, that  
he was taken to be one of them, & never ſuspected. But Orna-  
tus being returned to the Court, Lenon was then compelled  
to leue to follow hym, and harboured ſometimeſ in one place,

and

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and sometimes in another: having knowledge of Arctias absence, he could not tell whether she were alive, or dead; but veras he thought she could not be, but rather by some meane extorped. And even when Christus was newly come out of Adellinas house, Lenon espyed him, and knowing him to be one of Arctias servants, he salpreted his Master was there; to whom he saide, saying: My friend well met, I take you to be one of Arctias servants, vntill I be deceiued. Whiche if you will re tolne me of, I will doe ameassage to you, that I am willed so de luer to her from her deare frens Ornatus. Indeed (quoth Christus) I serue Arctias, and am now going to Ornatus with a Letter from Arctias, who is in safetie in Adellinas house. Lenon hearing his speach, being before determined what to doe, drew out his dagger, and suddenly stabbeth him, casting his body into a pit; and taking the Letter from him, brake vp the seale, and read the contents: which when he had done, he began to study, which way to revenge himselfe on Ornatus, and afterwards, to get Arctias into his possession; and for that he thought delay might hinder his intent, he wll wrote a Letter in Arctias name, the contents were these.

**O** Rnat, my dearest friend, the newes of your happy victorie, and conquest of your enemies, is come to my knowledge; then which, nothing could haue beeene more welcome vnto me. Likewise I heare, that much heauinesse possessesthe you for my absence, that am in safetie: and desire you to meet me to morrow night, and you shall finde me with Adellina, at the Lodge in the Parke neare vnto my Castle: In the meane time, remitting all further report of my escape, and manifestation of my loue, vntill the happy time I may meet you.

Yours in all loue, Arctias.

When he had written this Letter, and imitated therin Arctias storne hand so neare, that it could hardly be discerned, he went to the Court, and behayed the matter so cunningly, that he was no way suspected, but was admitted into Phylastes presence; to whom he delivered the Letter: for Ornatus him

## of ORNATUS and ARTESIA.

himselfe being exceedingly troubled in his minde, had left the Court, with some thre in company, to goe in search of Artesia; and left Phylastes in his Chamber, and in his Head to answere such as should come with any ratiō to him. Phylastes being taken for Ornatus of all, but by chance that attorneſt him, received the Letter, promiſing to meet Artesia there, at the same time appoynted; giuing the messenger a reward. Lenon being departed, went to a place, where he found a certaine Risanian of his, named Lucretius: to whom he declared both what he had, and what meaneſt he brought to his reuenge on Ornatus, who without respect, ioyned bands with him, and promiſed both many other to explece his ſcife in purſuite of reuenge, who, with Lenon included, before Ornatus coming, to be in the Lodge, with a ſufficient company to ſurprise him, and work the prema- diated reuenge, Lenon being allured of his aye, next determin- ed to take Artesia from Adellenas houſe, and to bring her to Lucretius Castle: buttil the time appoynted, ſtaying with Lu- cretius: to ſe him depart with his ambuſh to the Lodge: which he ſaw effectually perfoymed. Phylastes preſently, upon the receit of that Letter, ſent out a messenger to ſeke Ornatus, and to ſeruice him, that Artesia would meete him at the Lodge with Adellena that evening, and that he ſhould finde Phylastes there: who (being by Artesias messenger taken for himſelfe) had a preuyted to him there, leſt he ſhould not conveniently be ſound. The messenger with great haſt deparcted, ſame mor- ning after ſome peregrineſe (ſee in the hauſe Ornatus, and ſuch anſwers (with ſhewment) by that time, the diſcretion merte to an- end. Other ſpelleſſe found Ornatus; to whom he declared that Phylastes had ſet him in charge, none of reuengement, the place ſeiche he ſhould be his direſt, and ſame to the Lodge, diuining Phylastes ſhould be ſate at Adellenas houſe. Ornatus hearing that beauifully ſinges leapt for joy, preſently haſting to Adellenas houſe, which was not farre off. Le- don to ſet by this attempt, (whiche he thought he could not by violence diuine ſo ſe he thought, to be ſafely carriher away, perſonate in the conuict, him ſhould be ſpoyleſſe) ſent him an ſhewer of the letter, which he had ſaken from Thrasias, which

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be determined to deliver to Arcefa, as from Ornatus : the con-  
tents whereof were these.

**M**y most deare and belov'd Arcefa, I have receiv'd the  
Letter you sent me by your seruant; whom I have im-  
ployed about a matter of great importance, that none could so  
fiercely execute as himselfe : which newes was most welcome  
to the comfort of my heart, that was almost ouercome with  
despaire of yoursafety, wheron my chiefeſt felicity dependeth.  
Therefore omitting further recall of my joy for your safetys,  
which this Paper cannot expreſſe, therefore I will meete you  
soone, where this my ſervant will bring you: whose fidelity I  
affire you is ſuch, as that he will doe nothing but what I have  
given him in charge: vntill which time of meeting, I caſe all  
further circumſtance of ſpeeches.

Yours Ornatus.

With this Letter Lenon went to Adellens house, and  
knocking at the gate, was brought to her, to whom he deliue-  
red the ſame: who reading the contents, and being before not  
well acquainted with Ornatus ſame, nothing at all ſuspected  
the contrarie: but ſoone hee ſent for it came from him, and he  
determined to doe with the ſender, as to make him: ſhame of the  
ſame p[re]paration to doe with Lenon. Adellens ſpouse came in,  
telling her, that there was another to ſpeak with her from  
Ornatus: whoe ſeemeing to be in ſome diſcomforde, and Arce-  
fa ſeemeing to be ſtrange to him, and diſcontent of himſelfe; but ſe-  
eing a ſtrange ſight, and a Better in her ſame, he ſent her ſame  
to Arcefa, ſaying, ſee! here cometh one that ſpeaketh to you: Orn-  
atus ſent her ſame, ſaying, ſee! here cometh one that ſpeaketh to you: hee ſeeme-  
th to be ſtrange to you: Ornatus ſent her ſame, ſaying, if you have no  
further ſervice to doe, then may you to her ſame, and ſeemeing ſtrange  
thall be ſtrange to her. Ornatus thought to ſpeak ſame by Play-  
fakes, but not ſoone as hee ſeemeing, ſeemeing her ſame,  
and ſeemeing ſtrange to her ſame, he ſent her ſame ſeemeing ſtrange to her  
to Arcefa, ſaying, ſee! here cometh one that ſpeaketh to you: ſeemeing  
that Arcefa ſeemeing ſtrange to her ſame, ſeemeing ſtrange to her ſame.  
Ornatus ſent her ſame, ſaying, ſee! here cometh one by ſame ſtrange, and  
there,

## of ORNATUS and ARTESEA.

Therefore said: I know this comes not from Ornatus, for this is not his hand, nor is that his signature; for himself sent me before, assuring me to be here within this hour. Leon hearing his speech, might perceive a thousand miles off, fearing to be discovered, for that he could not tell how to excuse himself, nor by any colour above the water. To which Ornatus said: My friend, when did he say that this is not his hand (which he,) when he sent me Ornatus? for he did not write at the Council of the 17th of May, I can perceive which impudence to suffice, naming no other means but that he was ready to help him, therefore said: His Letter came from Ornatus, and from Leon, in saying the contrary, being some willfull that all set to betray this Lady: therefore (quoth he) speaking to Artesea, because he was not, as he is come with some intent. which that, Ornatus had those that were with him, lay hands on him: who presently apprehended him, and pulling off his hat, and shewing himself that he was, knew him to be Leon; at the first, before he durst to touch him, for that they would have knowne he had beene dead. Ornatus leaving Artesea in an exceeding night, discovered himself, and with great joye bade her, desirer her to feare nothing. Artesea knowing him, being so farre from her, supposing her selfe excommunicate, and unioyned to her: wherefore shee said, my deare Artesea, for it my selfe am the cause, I am not: I shall not have, if he neare escape my power. So when he came: as he did comande, and comande with me, shoulde I not be contented to live in quiet, having once receaved my life, but then must by further treacherye and treacherie, as I have in this historye, that shoulde be injury to her? your wrongs, which interrupted her quiet, and from quietnesse, brought her into misery: and knowing that she could not like this, yet then shoulde I be content as never to give her the quiet but to attaine thynesse, first desirer her of liber-tye, and shewed me in the beginning of Syllian, and thought to be, shewing faythers life, and not faythers death all these like a toise, neare myreant, sekerly by Willany to betray her: and notwith-standing I had beheld thy faythers faythfull downfall & mercilie, was punishment, then shouldest to betray this Ladys life by some

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unknowen treachery, not yet revealed: for all which, thou  
shalt suffer punishment as I have denised, and have power to  
execute. Lenon being him selfe discovered, grew desperate, and  
scouring to be rebuked at his hanus, whom he still esteemed  
his insecurour; but especially deying, that it was he that had so  
long hindred his loue to Artesia, said: O natus, I thinke thou  
hast either forgotten thy selfe, or else what I am, that at thy  
pleasures ouest me in such basmall and ill behoving seruice.  
Am I not the better, and one that not long since unio[n]d  
commanded the: and is thy minde so much elevated and prouide,  
that thou wilst not acknowledge it? If thou makest brags of thy  
merites, when thou mayst rather imbo[n]d shame keepe silence, and  
with tempre reuent, that thou hast ioucht the beards of thy lorde  
full king, being thy selfe but a traytor. As he booke had spake  
more, but O[n]atus interrupted him, saying: Hold thy peace, and  
do not stir my minde to mo[re] sharp rebunge by thy reply, for I  
fear me to heare thee speake the same now ofte, lest I painte that  
tongue of thine, for uttering such high words in defence of vice.  
Sowre smoth Lenon, thou wilst not heare me speake in defence  
of my selfe, let me be conuayed from the p[er]f[ec]t[ion], for the high  
expressions made me as mine to the. whil[er] then conuain-  
ed in Adellias howe a messenger came running to breake  
lether hirring the[re] marches: Behold, myl[or]d O[n]atus, a  
hym the[re] a milles of thundres, and hevye thundre. wher[er]  
day there was a messenger came to the Const. that brought a  
letter in Artesias name to Phylates: whiche p[re]f[er]ably sent out  
a messenger to give you knowyng of the[re]z: but not heaving  
of his selfe, went him selfe and some louours in his company  
to the place appaynted, and entred he found not Artesia  
there, but a crew of Xebis, amonge whom, Lucertus was  
chiefly who all at onces set upon him and his followers, taking  
him for your selfe: having to manye above the small number  
that were with Phylates, the[re] had tolde him more of  
them that were with you: and sume were not able to kylle, and  
such a multitude, had received manye griesous wounds, and  
had beene surp[re]s[ed]aine, but that the Engagis sent them this

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It chanced that day, that Duke Ternus was going from the Court to his olde house: who by great fortune hearing the news, with his men hasten thitherwards; & having knowledge of what was done, most valiantly both himself and his men set upon Lucertus, whom they soon vanquished, having first slain many of his complices: and him hath he carried prisoner, with the rest of such as were alive unto the Court; and with them, Phylastes, in great danger of death. Ornatus heart was exceedingly vexed to heare of his deare friend Phylastes hurt: but especially to think, that he had not before attacked Lucertus, which he has once in minde to have done; which would have peanmented all these mischices. The night now being come, Ornatus caused Lenon to be bound hand and foote, and put into a stony place of y house, with some to watch him, lest he should doe himselfe violence: himself, with Artesia, spending that evening in many speeches, relating the manner of all these misfortunes, but especially comforting themselves in each others loue; with Adelina, calling to remembraunce the whole manner of their troubles, onely procured by Lenon: which sad relations, made the ryming of their loue more pleasant and delectable.

Early the next morning, Ornatus putting himself in his Pal-  
mers meedes, and couring Artesias face with a baile, & carping  
Lenon with them bound, departed towards the Court. The  
next morning, the Peeres of the Land being still there, assem-  
bled themselves: amongst whom, was Allius, that likewise  
had found his Lady; who hearing of his happy successe against  
Thaon, was that morning newely arriued at the Court, and by  
him entertained with exceeding ioy. By that time they were  
assembled, & had called Lucertus before them; Ornatus, with his  
company were likewise come, though unknowne: and standing  
by heard Lucertus confesse, that Lenon had instigated him to  
swoke that revenge against Ornatus; himselfe being likewise  
gone to betray Artesia. The whole assembly maruelled, when  
they heard him say, Lenon perswaded him to it; that Allius  
stood up, saying; Is not he dead? then how can this be? Lenon  
(quoth Lucertus) is not dead. With that, Ornatus stepping in,  
thrust Lenon before him, and said; Here is the man that hath

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presented him to doe all this mischiefe. The nobles beholding him were amazed at his sight; but being assited it was he, by the perfect knowledge they had of him, Ternus said: Lenon, I  
have alwaies thought thou hadst borne the minde of a Gentle-  
man, but now I see the contrary in thee, and that in the most  
shamefulest degrē. What forges thee to such mischievous at-  
tempts to hire Lucertus to slay Ornatus, which he hath almost  
performed, and thy selfe to seeke the death or misery of that ver-  
tuous Lady, y<sup>e</sup> hath already incurred to much wrong by the folly:  
Allinus had not as yet heard of Ornatus hurt; nor any knew  
the contrary, but that Phylakes was he: for he, according to the  
minde of a most vertuous & constant friend, will counsele him-  
selfe. But the Lady Aura had yet storie her sonne, whom she had  
but heard of; that Allinus said: Is my sonne Ornatus almost  
slaine? O trayeronous villaine. With that, Aura like tolle began  
to make exceeding lamentation: which Ornatus was not able  
to behold; and therefore pulling off his disguised habit, humbly  
reuerenced himself before them upon his knēs: both his parents  
knew him, & with exceeding joy imbraced him, shedding abun-  
dance of teares for his safety. With that, Duke Ternus and all  
the rest came to him, besyng him with such behauior, as belonged  
to him they had chose King, seating him in an imperiall Chaire.  
He being thus set, said: O y<sup>e</sup> noble Lord, I thankē you for in-  
titling me with this exceeding honour; therefore my beseech is,  
since you haue elected me of your fre<sup>e</sup> and bounteous hearts to be  
your King, let me this day, and instantly, be installed with pos-  
session of the Diademe, for that I haue now no further cause of  
care, to cause me deserve the same: & likewise that I may giue  
judgement against these most wicked conspirators. Who pro-  
bates with toyfull hearts gave consent, & immoderately crowned  
him; with bended knēs doing him reverence. Which done, Or-  
natus rising from his imperiall seat, came to Artegia, taking  
her by the hand; leading her up to the Throne, seated her in the  
Chaire, placing the Crowne upon her head, saying: O y<sup>e</sup> Lord,  
as you haue elected me King, I pray likewise be contented with  
that I do, & make this your Dauesne; then puld he off the bavle  
from Artegias face, & her clear beauty appeared, to y<sup>e</sup> admiration

## of ORNATVS and ARTESIA.

all; who beholding, in humble sort did her reverence, making  
excusing shouts for tog therpr hearts being all glad of her safety.  
when this was done, the same done, & imbraced them, & tol-  
ling them many thanks; who all thanked such pretensing kin-  
nesse as erpess their heartly god wil, and rejoyced both her and  
Ornatus to behold: especially Aura, and Ternus Dutcherie; who  
with many imbracings, which they thought they could not ins-  
ufficiently expesse, rejoyced to see her in that safety. By that time  
Ornatus was againe seafen, & Artesia by him, Phylastes hearing  
of Ornatus returne, being (though grievously wounded) yet in  
no great danger of death, as wel as he could, came into y<sup>e</sup> Par-  
lement, where beholding Ornatus and Artesia crowned, knelled  
downe before them: his hearte concerning exceeding joy, to be-  
held y<sup>e</sup> heavenly sight: whom Ornatus kindly imbraced, rejoy-  
cing to see him in y<sup>e</sup> godilitie; after Artesias salutation, willing  
him to sit downe amongst them. Then Ornatus first command-  
ing Floretus to be sent for out of prison, thus said: Now there  
resteth nothing, but to give sentence against these, y<sup>e</sup> by conspi-  
cacies hanc beane murthurers, which fact is so haynous, y<sup>e</sup> it ma-  
keith them both odious to God and man; in which offence, both  
thou Lenon, Lucertus, and Tyreius, are guilty: thereloxe Lenon  
(qd. he) first declare, what mowed thee, from time to time, to  
commit so many & grievous acts as y<sup>e</sup> hast done: Lenons heart  
was dead with vexation, to see him crowned, and Artesia chosen  
his Queene, y<sup>e</sup> hanging downe his head he wold not speake:  
but Lucertus humbling himselfe vpon his knie, asked pardon.  
By this time Floretus was brought in, looking with such a  
meager & pale countenance, by reason of his long imprisonment  
that Artesia lopt to behold him, & could not chuse but run and  
embrace him: spunger knie intreating Ornatus to pardon the  
offence he had committed which was against none but her selfe.  
Ornatus seeing her knie, suddenly caught her vp; imbracing  
Floretus, & commanding his hands to be vnclosed, withall saying:  
I not onely with a willing heart pardon you, but also give unto  
you for ever all those possessions y<sup>e</sup> belenged unto your brother  
Arbastus. Floretus, who expected nothing but death, was exas-  
ting ioyfull, and humble vpon his knie vcelled many thanks.

Then

## The Morphofunctionary

the world were filled with the spirit of  
their righteous life, and peaceful.

## FINISH

